

January  
2012

# THE FIRST ALERT



## **FIRST Presbyterian Church**

10 Charleston Ave

Mattoon, IL 61938

Phone (217) 234-6722 Fax (217)234-4334

Email: [fpchurch@consolidated.net](mailto:fpchurch@consolidated.net) Website: [www.fpcmattoon.org](http://www.fpcmattoon.org)

### **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

## **The Pastor's Perspective**

As we look forward to a new year, it's a good time to take stock of where we've been and think about where God is calling us to go.

It was exciting to see the newspaper coverage of our Nativity Scene which we put on in Peterson Park. This year we joined with other churches as way to reach out to our community through Nativity Scenes in the Park. I don't know if it was our carolers or Janie the donkey that got us on the front page – but, whatever it was, it served as a gentle reminder to me that we must be doing something right!

As a matter of fact, there are a lot of things that we're doing right. If I were to try to list them, I'm sure that I would leave something out. So let me just say that I am proud of the many ways in which our church is being faithful in ministry to what God has called us to do.

I wonder what God has in mind for us to do in 2012? I am sure he wants us to keep up the good work, but I would be surprised if he doesn't also have some new things for us. We need to be flexible and creative to find out what those new ministries might be.

I once read a "Shoe" cartoon in the newspaper that reminded me of how easy it is to get into a rut. A gypsy is on the phone to Tech Support: "I'd like to speak to someone about a crystal ball on the fritz," she says. "What seems to be the problem?" asks the technician. "My tomorrow is stuck in yesterday," she replies.

It's easy to get stuck in yesterday, and in order to break out we may need to think "outside the box."

About this time last year I was watching the Tournament of Roses Parade on television when I heard the announcer say something unusual: "Coming up next is The Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band." It took me a minute for this statement to register. "How can there be a Marching Band at the School for the Blind?" I wondered. But, sure enough, there they came! Each musician was accompanied by a sighted person. What an inspiration they were! Someone at that school was definitely thinking "outside the box."

People's needs do not change much. We have to find a reason for living. We need a community to belong to. Basic material needs must be met. People's needs do not change much...but the way we address those needs may vary greatly as time passes and the world changes. How does our church connect with the people God has called us to reach in our community during this next year? Let's approach that question with imagination and prayer and see what the answer may be.

**Sunday Morning  
Van Drivers  
for January**

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> Charlie Keller  
Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> Bob Plummer  
Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> John Jeisy  
Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> Greg Thompson  
Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> Bill Saunders

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**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.

**Women's Board Meeting**, Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> 8:30 am. We will be taking Christmas decorations down..... we invite everyone to come; giving even an hour of your time would be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

**Priscilla Circle** will meet Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Barb Daily is hostess, Becky Bennett will give the devotions and Elsie Carter has the Bible Study lesson. Please read lesson three in your study book, *Confessing the Beatitudes*. New members are welcome. If you have any questions call Alice Jeisy at 217-644-2625 or Elsie Carter at 217-235-6589.

**Kemmerer Christmas**

**WOW!** What an outpouring of gifts for the children at Kemmerer. There were 184 items of clothing, games art supplies, books and school supplies. A big thank you to all those who brought Christmas items for the children. Keep saving the Box Tops for Education and Campbell labels. Thanks to all that help. Place them in the box on the table in the Fellowship hall.



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

**Reception after the Barbershoppers  
concert on December 4, 2011**

Serving are: Dorothy Phillips, Karen Huffmaster, Florence Beck, Donita Faris, Sharon Mercer, Connie Buescher & Alice Jeisy.


















# PUZZLE

## A caring disciple

In Acts 9, Peter tells of a woman who lived in Joppa. She performed good works and helped the poor. Solve the puzzle below to reveal this disciple's two names.

**Instructions:** Cross out the letters that spell each object and write the remaining letter on the blank.

___ adcltne			
___ rohmtae			
___ srgbape			
___ rbieda			
___ pehtshred			
___ rdhaenlca			
___ fadoo			
Her name in Greek			
___ pdeesh			
___ dchilnero			
___ drove			
___ acehtr			
___ sarcos			
___ nusoaatim			

Answers: Tabitha, Dorcas

## NO-SEW FLEECE SCARF



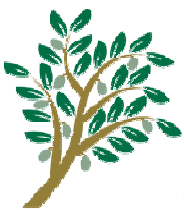
Winter is a difficult time for people in need, so make this scarf to help someone stay warm.

### What you need:

- Medium-weight polar fleece, 60" standard width (a 9" portion will make one scarf)
- Scissors
- An adult to help

### What you do:

1. Cut a piece of medium-weight polar fleece to the size of 60" x 9". Cut the fabric across its width so the material is stretchy.
2. Trim off the edge binding. To add "fringe" along each end, make a 6"-long cut every half inch.
3. For curly fringe, pull each strand and then let go sharply. Another attractive option is to tie an overhand knot at the top of each strip.
4. Donate your scarf to a local group that helps people in need. For greater impact, encourage your Sunday school classmates or other friends to make scarves, too.



### Olive Branch

The Olive Branch is a symbol of peace, harmony and healing. Olive trees provide shelter, as well as oil used for ointment and consecration. The Olive Branch also represents deliverance from hardships and anxiety because a dove brought an olive leaf back to Noah's ark after the flood ended (Genesis 8:11).



From morning till night, may your birthday be bright, and nicer than ever before... and as years come and go may your happiness grow and your dreams be fulfilled even more.



*Roy & Elizabeth  
Druin*

*Steve & Vicki  
Williams*

**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.

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**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**



**Jan. 2**  
David Wetzel

**Jan. 12**  
Betty Miller

**Jan. 20**  
J.C. Moore

**Jan. 7**  
Kyle Hudson

**Jan. 13**  
Gloria Thompson

**Jan. 23**  
Catherine Steele

**Jan. 8**  
Sue Gathmann  
Austin Wetzel

**Jan. 14**  
Elner Oliver

**Jan. 26**  
Art Willaredt

**Jan. 9**  
Sibyl Etchason

**Jan. 17**  
Ron Johnson  
Andrew Hall

**Jan. 27**  
John Keller

**Jan. 10**  
Jo Swick  
Ken Keating

**Jan. 18**  
Wanda Ingle  
Max Jaeger  
Kathy Wright

**Jan. 28**  
Carl Furry

**Jan. 11**  
Cadance McDaniel

**Jan. 19**  
Thomas Seldomridge

**Jan. 31**  
Madonna Walker



Altar Flowers

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring or send to the church office.



## Calendar of Events

**Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**New Years Day**  
 Service 10:30 a.m.

**Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
 Church office closed

**Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
 Women's Board meeting 8:30 a.m.  
 Membership meeting 10:00 a.m.  
 Alzheimer's support group 1:00 p.m.  
 Worship committee meets 6:00 p.m.  
 Barbershoppers 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>**  
 Kids' Club 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>**  
 Bible Study 9:00 a.m.  
 Ruth Circle 9:30 a.m.  
 Mystery Book Club 6:00 p.m.  
 Bible 101 class 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**  
 Service 8:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
 Second Service 10:30 a.m.  
 Pre-pack food pantry 1:00 p.m.

**Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**  
 Esther Circle 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**  
 Priscilla Circle 7:00 p.m.  
 Barbershoppers 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**  
 Kids' Club 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**  
 Bible Study 9:00 a.m.  
 Mystery Book Club 6:00 p.m.  
 Bible 101 class 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**  
 Service 8:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
 Second Service 10:30 a.m.

**Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**  
 Church office closed  
 Deacons 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>**  
 PEO meets at 9:00 a.m.  
 Alzheimer's support group 1:00 p.m.  
 B & G meet at 5:00 p.m.  
 Mission 6:00 p.m.  
 Barbershoppers meet at 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**  
 Kids' Club 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**  
 Bible Study 9:00 a.m.  
 Low Vision 10:30 a.m.  
 Bible 101 class 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
 Service 8:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
 Second Service 10:30 a.m.

**Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
 Deacons 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**  
 Session 6:00 p.m.  
 Barbershoppers meet at  
 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**  
 Kids' Club 5:30 p.m.

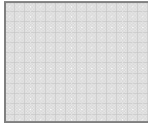
**Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**  
 Bible Study 9:00 a.m.  
 PEO Meeting 6:00 p.m.  
 Bible 101 class 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>**  
 Service 8:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
 Second Service 10:30 a.m.

**Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**  
 Alzheimer's support group  
 1:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>**  
 Barbershoppers meet at  
 7:00 p.m.





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CHURCH**  
10 Charleston Ave.  
Mattoon, IL 61938



Return service requested

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