

First Facts

A monthly publication of **First Presbyterian Church** • Cape Girardeau, Missouri • February 2015

Invitation

Lent is an invitation from God.

I imagine this invitation to be personally address to each recipient. It is a fancy invitation-engraved and very personal. The fine parchment paper with gold lettering conveys how important this invitation is. It is one of those invitations that you save in a special place. Just receiving this formal invitation makes you feel very special whether you attend the special event or not. But why not attend? It is from God who loves you more that you can comprehend. God knows you better than your best friends, better than you know yourself!

You begin to list in your mind the myriad of excuses that quickly offers a 'detour' around Lent.

Too busy, never enough time for myself,
what is God really up to?—God is too busy to be concerned with me,
I just don't have time to fit even one more thing into my crazy life,
I'm too old,
I'm too young,
I'm not religious enough for this sort of thing-whatever it is,
what will my friends think?
Fill in the blank, what's your excuse _____!

But this invitation is one of those that no matter what excuse you come up with, it is quickly dismissed. Because you know in your heart that regardless of where this journey might lead, you want to be closer to God for the rest of your life.

This sacred journey begins on Wednesday evening, February 18, in the Upper Room located on third floor of our Educational Wing. It is a spiritually intimate setting for you and God as we begin our Lenten journey. Hymns, scripture, prayer, meditation, and silence are combined to start our response to God's Call, an invitation to discipleship.

The current Adult Seminar on Sunday mornings at 9:00 is exploring the writing of the Rev. Dr. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*. The seminar is a most powerful prelude to our Lenten journey. Bonhoeffer states, "Christianity without the living Christ is inevitably Christianity without discipleship, and Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ." You are invited to join our seminar which will continue through the Lenten season.

Please RSVP directly to GOD as to whether you are willing to attend His Lenten Journey with you. God's wireless connection (prayer) is always available!

Your earthly shepherd and pastor, Pastor Kim

Adult and Youth Sunday School

NURSERY: Our nursery is open from 9 a.m. on Sunday morning through our worship service, for children birth through kindergarten. Children will be escorted upstairs from the nursery to the worship service for the “Kids’ Message” and then will return to the nursery. In the nursery they may participate in a brief Sunday School lesson and activity. Children are welcome to join their parents for the worship service at any time. **Parents come to the nursery after worship to pick up their children.**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: The “Early Grades Sunday School” Class, for children kindergarten through second grade, will study lessons based on stories from The Old Testament. The “Upper Grades Sunday School Class”, for children third grade and above, will continue their study of Jesus and His Ministry. Both classes will meet in their classrooms upstairs following the “Kids’ Message” in worship. The teachers of these classes will bring the children to the Narthex after the worship service is concluded.

ADULT CLASS: The current Adult Seminar on Sunday mornings at 9:00 is exploring the writing of the Rev. Dr. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*. The seminar is a most powerful prelude to our Lenten journey. Bonhoeffer states, “Christianity without the living Christ is inevitably Christianity without discipleship, and Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.” You are invited to join our seminar which will continue through the Lenten season.

Sunday School - 9 a.m.

Sunday Service of Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Treasurer’s Report

As of December 31, 2014

Final

Year to Date Income	\$237,545
Year to Date Expenses	\$279,757
Expenses Greater than Income	\$42,212

Investments

Permanent Endowment	\$250,000
Restricted Investments	55,194
General Fund Savings	63,518
Presbyterian Investment	136,071

For a more complete financial picture, you can attend the Finance Committee Meeting, Session Meeting, or contact our Treasurer, Jean Cairns@573-803-0085



Flowers for Worship

On Sunday, January 18, the flowers in the sanctuary were given in memory of Rudie Slaughter.

Flowers for worship may be shared to celebrate your anniversary, someone’s birthday, or in memory of a loved one or friend. They can also just say “Thanks, God!” Please call the church office (335-2579) to sign up for flowers.

Worship Attendance

January 4	78
January 11	58
January 18	81
January 25	78



Daytime Circle

The Daytime Circle will meet on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at the Chateau at 11 a.m. with Jean Miller serving as hostess. Please call Jean at 651-8320 to let her know you can come so she can have an accurate lunch count. Please read the first lesson beginning on page 10 of our new study book, PSALMS, in preparation of the Bible Study. If you would like to join us, we would love to have you. Books are available from Sharon Metcalfe @ \$13 each. Remember, too, that each month we collect personal care items for the challenged teenagers at Central High School and you may bring your contribution this time.

Book Club

The Book Club will meet on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at the home of Ruth Needle, 2542 Jonquil Lane at 7 p.m. The discussion will be on the book, "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr. Please call Ruth at 334-4515 to let her know you can attend.

The March book selection will be "West with the Night" by Beryl Markham and will meet at the home of Sandy Wilhelm. The April book selection is "Bittersweet" by Colleen McCullaugh and May's choice is "The Goldfinch" by Donna Tartt.

February Meal-A-Month

- 2 cans chicken noodle soup
- Box of crackers
- 2 cans of fruit

Gather, Share and Eat

Our first Gather, Share and Eat will be on Sunday, February 8, 2015. The menu will be vegetable beef soup, bread and crackers, veggies and dip, chocolate cake and strawberry poke cake. Please sign pew pad or contact the church office if you wish to attend. Hope to see you there!

February 8th Annual Meeting

Following Gather, Eat and Share, we will have our Annual Meeting to review the Annual Reports. If you would like to have a copy prior to the meeting, they will be available Sunday, February 1, or at the church office starting Monday, February 2.

All in the Family

Shirley is working on a new All in the Family and if anyone **does not** want their mobile phone number or email listed in First Facts, email or call the church fpresbyt@sbcglobal.net or 573-335-2579.

Mount Moriah Baptist Church Trivia Night

Our neighbors at Mt. Moriah church will join us for a joint program on Saturday evening, February 7 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The program is Black History Trivia. Cost is \$20 per person. Call the church office (335-2579) and make your reservation prior to February 6.

Memorials

Memorials have been received in memory of:

Jessie Bryan, from David Hawkins

Rudie Slaughter, from Bill & Evelyn Stover, Bill & Ruth Ann Hash, Winifred Hirsch Ward, Ruth Needle, Bob & Ann Parkinson, Ray & Ann Ritter, Nelson Kasten, Daytime Circle, Sharon Metcalfe, Freck Shivelbine, Barbara Calvin, Betty Sewell, Madge Ridings, Anna Hunziger

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

BLEND, an a cappella quartet will be here at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 19th at 7 p.m. BLEND brings back all of the fun loving memories of the 50's and 60's with a twist of fun. This group mixes the great music of yesteryear with today's comedy. BLEND IS A SHOW YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS!

BLEND was formed at John A. Logan College as a minor project that quickly blossomed into the makings of a successful career for its members. The real strength of BLEND lies in their ability to entertain crowds of all ages with their renditions of songs which everyone has heard at one point or another all while keeping a Christian undertone. On top of their classic doo-wop routine, they are also a deeply spiritual group and love to share their gospel music as well.

Melissa Harris has seen them perform twice and is very excited to see them again!! For more information talk to Melissa Harris 573-579-4977.



Rummage Sale April 11, 2015

The Mission Committee is planning a Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 11, 2015 to benefit the Hope House in Jackson and the Amen Center in Delta. It will be held in the Activities Building and we are asking for everyone to check their homes for items they no longer need or use to donate to this project. Prior to the sale, we will arrange for a pickup if you are unable to transport items.

Per Capita

Each year the church pays a per capita fee for the expenses of Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. The apportionment is based on church membership and is due in the spring. Our per capita fee this year is \$30.29. If you would like to pay your own per capita, it would definitely help our church budget. If you're feeling especially generous, perhaps you will want to pay for an additional member. Thank you in advance!

Visiting Choirs

Briar Cliff University Chamber Singers

We are fortunate to have two guest collegiate choirs joining us for worship in the month of March. Sunday, March 8, 2015, Briar Cliff University Chamber Choir, under the direction of Dr. Sean Burton, will visit. The 35 voice mixed choir from Sioux City, Iowa will be stopping in Cape Girardeau for a 7:30 p.m. concert at the River Campus with the Southeast University Choir and Chamber Choir on Saturday, March 7. The Briar Cliff University Chamber Choir will also join us in the 10:30 a.m. service at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, March 8. Come hear this wonderful choir and share a meal with them after the service for our monthly Gather, Share and Eat Sunday. The choir will be staying in a hotel, so there is no need to provide home stays for the 35 singers.

Northwest Missouri State University Tower Choir

Saturday March 21 and Sunday March 22, 2015 Northwest Missouri State University Tower Choir under the direction of Dr. Stephen Town will be here. The 45 voice mixed choir from Maryville, Missouri will perform a full-length concert at First Presbyterian on Saturday March 21 at 7:30 p.m.. The choir will require home stays that evening, so we will need many people to open their houses to these students and house them in groups of at least two. The Tower Choir will also sing in the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday March 22. Please contact the church office or Peter Durow (peterdurow@yahoo.com) if you are interested in housing the NWMSU Tower Choir on Saturday, March 21. Many of you may remember housing the Millikin University Choir a couple of years ago. Once again, please contact Peter Durow with any questions (573) 587-2223.



Starting Your Lenten Journey with Nourishment for the Body and Soul

Wednesday, February 18

Our Lenten journey begins on Wednesday, February 18, at 6 p.m. with a simple soup dinner together as we satisfy the needs of our physical bodies. At 7 p.m. we move and gather in the Upper Room located on the third floor of the Education Wing. The liturgy will feed our souls as we prepare to journey with Christ throughout the Lenten season.

In order to prepare for the dinner and adequate seating for worship, please RSVP to the church office at 573-335-2579 or email the church at fpresbyt@sbcglobal.net



Mark Your Calendars for Holy Week at FPC Cape

Palm Sunday, March 29, 10:30 a.m. worship and the procession of Palms

Holy Thursday, April 2, 6 p.m. featuring a congregational dinner followed by the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, April 3, noon to approximately 2 p.m. A Community Walk throughout downtown where prayers and scripture are shared by several pastors and community leaders. Our 'Good Friday Walk of Faith' begins next door to the our church at the gazebo.

From the Session

At the stated January 21, 2015 meeting of the Session, the Elders did the following:

1. The Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Session held on November 19, 2014 were approved. The minutes of the Special Called Session Meetings on December 14, 2014 and 17, 2014 were approved.
2. Passed a motion to accept the Annual Statistical Report for 12/31/14.
3. Passed a motion to allow Ashley Reynolds and Bentley Friedrich to be married in the church on October 3, 2015 with Pastor Kim officiating.
4. Passed a motion to accept all committee reports.
5. Next meeting is February 18, 2015.

FEBRUARY PRAYER CALENDAR

The Session hopes you will use this Prayer Calendar as we daily pray for each other and some of the mission concerns of our church.

1st	The Presbytery of Los Ranchos	14th	Jim Hirsch (birthday)
2nd	Synod of Southern California and Hawaii		Bob & Ann Parkinson (anniversary)
3rd	Hanmi Presbytery		Ray & Sandy Wilhelm (anniversary)
4th	Brucee Woods (birthday)	15th	Argentina/Paraguay/Uruguay
5th	Presbytery of the Pacific	16th	Brazil
6th	Presbytery of Riverside	17th	Rob Williams (birthday)
7th	David Brown (birthday)	18th	Chile
	Paul Pautler (birthday)	19th	Benjamin Broeckling (birthday)
	Ed & Sina Kaiser (anniversary)	20th	Sam McCune (birthday)
8th	Presbytery of San Gabriel	21st	Peru
9th	Presbytery of San Fernando	22nd	Bolivia
10th	Jeanne Hirsch (birthday)	23rd	Colombia
11th	Presbytery of Santa Barbara	24th	Venezuela
12th	Elsie Jane Harris (birthday)	25th	Caribbean Islands
13th	Latin America and the Caribbean	26th	Presbytery of San Diego
		27th	Dominican Republic
		28th	Haiti

From the Mission Yearbook of Prayer and Study

Lord, you know everything; you know that we love you! Help us to take care of your sheep. Help us to follow you to new places. Give us love for the lost and lonely. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 2015

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30 am Communion Worship Service	2 7:00 pm Property Meeting	3	4 7:30 pm Choir	5	6	7 6:00 pm Mount Moriah Trivia night
8 10:30 am Worship Service Annual Congregation Meeting noon Gather, Share & Eat	9 6:30 pm Christian Outreach Meeting	10 11:00 am Daytime Circle 3:00 pm Com-MST1	11 6:00 pm Worship & Art Meeting 7:30 pm Choir	12 7:00 pm Book Club	13	14
15 10:30 am Worship Service	16	17	18 6:00 pm Lenten dinner 7:00 pm Lenten Lesson 7:30 pm Choir	19 7:00 pm BLEND Quartet	20	21
22 10:30 am Worship Service	23	24	25 6:30 pm Sesson Meeting 7:30 pm Choir	26	27	28

Jan 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Mar 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				