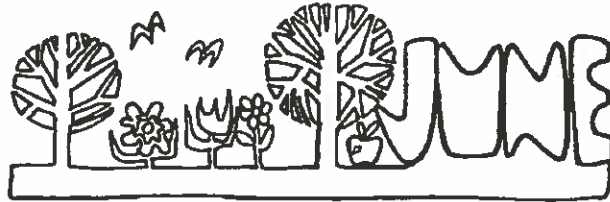


# First Facts

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



To the Generous Saints of First Presbyterian Church,

Memorial Weekend marks the beginning of Summer for most people - travel plans are made, vacations are scheduled, relatives are notified, newspapers are put on hold, the pets are found temporary homes. Around the Church, worship attendance fluctuates based on who's in town, who's traveling and here in Southeast Missouri, and we ask, "Can we make it to church AND avoid the thunderstorm?"



Last Summer 'flat Jesus' was handed out for our travels. Jesus showed up at a Cardinal baseball game, in the National Parks, water skiing, traveling to grandma's house. Flat Jesus with his brightly colored robe traveled more miles in one Summer than the real Jesus did when he live in Israel! Where will Jesus travel this year?

Of course the symbol of the traveling Flat Jesus is a reminder that wherever you go, Christ goes with you; you are never alone; you are never forsaken! For some people, forgetting about God is so natural to do. When life is going good and there are no bumps in the road of life, some say, "Who needs God now?" 'Life preserver prayers' are only quickly offered up when the flood waters of life overwhelm us; when we have been deserted even by what we thought were our best friends; when our physical and mental abilities are not enough—that's when we turn to God.

This summer Rebecca and I are traveling to Iona, Scotland. It is a very small island about 4 miles long north to south and only about 1.5 miles wide. Below my brief monthly letter, you will find a short history about the island that I found on line. It gives you a small appreciation of why this historic place is so sacred. I have a couple of volumes in my personal library which give a more detailed account of its history, if you would like to read more.

Our 'Flat Jesus' is planning to travel with us. May your 'Flat Jesus' and God's Holy Spirit travel with you whether you travel near or far from home.

In His Vineyard,

Pastor Kim

### A Brief History of Iona, Scotland

In 563, St. Columba came to [Iona](#) from Ireland with twelve companions, and founded a [monastery](#) which grew to be an influential centre for the spread of Christianity among the Picts and Scots. Kings were crowned, and also buried, on Iona. The [Book of Kells](#), a famous [illuminated manuscript](#), is believed to have been produced by the monks of Iona in the years leading up to 800. [The Chronicle of Ireland](#) was also produced at Iona until about 740. In 806, [Vikings](#) massacred 68 monks in Martyrs' Bay, and Columba's monks returned to Ireland, and a Monastery at Kells: other monks from Iona fled to the Continent, and established Monasteries in Belgium, France, and [Switzerland](#). In 825, [St Blathmac](#) and those monks who had returned with him to Iona, were martyred by a further Viking raid, and the Abbey burned. However, it was probably not deserted. Its continued importance is shown by the death there in 980 of [Amlaib Cuarán](#), a retired King of Dublin.

Iona had been seized by the King of Norway, who held it for fifty years before [Somered](#) recaptured it, and invited renewed Irish involvement in 1164: this led to the construction of the central part of the Cathedral. [Ranald](#), Somered's son, now 'Lord of the Isles', in 1203 invited the Benedictine order to establish a new Monastery, and the first (Benedictine) Nunnery, on the Columban foundations. Building work began on the new Abbey church, on the site of Columba's original church.

A very early Nunnery, founded in the thirteenth century, and of the Augustinian Order (one of only two in Scotland - the other is in Perth), the [Iona Nunnery](#), was established south of the Abbey buildings. Graves of some of the early nuns remain, including that of a remarkable Prioress, Anna Maclean, who died in 1543. Clearly visible under her outer robe is the [rochet](#), a pleated surplice denoting the Augustinian Order. The Nunnery buildings were rebuilt in the fifteenth century and fell into disrepair after the Reformation.



### The Cloisters of Iona Abbey

The original Benedictine Abbey was substantially rebuilt following the Duke of Argyll's gift of all the buildings in 1899 to the [Church of Scotland](#), which undertook extensive restoration of the site. In 1938, the inspiration of [Reverend George MacLeod](#) led a group which rebuilt the abbey, and founded the [Iona Community](#). The reconstruction was organized by the architect [Ian Gordon Lindsay](#) having generously been passed the project from his senior mentor and friend [Reginald Fairlie](#). The surrounding buildings were also re-constructed during the 20th century by the Iona Community. This [ecumenical Christian](#) community continues to use the site to this day.

## 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 “Upper Grades Sunday School Class”, will meet for Summer Sunday School in the Children’s Library. They will be learning how to use the Bible. The younger class will continue with Kathy Woodfin on the Nursery area.

### ————— Sunday Service of Worship - 10:00 a.m. —————

#### Worship Attendance

May 3	70
May 10	100
May 17	99
May 24	67

#### Treasurer’s Report

As of April 30, 2015

Year to Date Income	\$71,385
Year to Date Expenses	\$90,176
Expenses Greater than Income	<b>\$18,791</b>

#### 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 at 573-803-0085.



#### Flowers for Worship

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, were given in honor of Martha Stickler for Mother’s Day, and in memory of Bill Stickler, from their son Wayne Stickler.

The flowers in the Sanctuary on May 31<sup>st</sup>, were given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. & Mrs. R.E.L. Lamkin, Jr., from their children and grandchildren.

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.

#### June Meal-A-Month

Package of pancake mix (add water only)

Bottle of pancake syrup

2 cans of fruit of choice

## Summer Worship Schedule

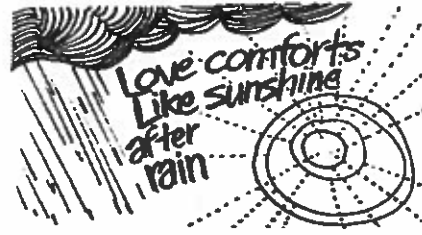
Beginning Sunday, June 7 and continuing through Labor Day weekend, worship will begin at 10 a.m. Our guest minister on June 7 will be the Rev. Hugh Stewart, former interim pastor of our church. His ministry took place prior to the arrival of the Rev. Paul Kabo. WELCOME BACK TO FPC-Cape Hugh!

On June 14, Flag Day, our guest minister is the Rev. Sam Roethemeyer from Jackson. He recently retired as the senior pastor of the United Church of Christ after a very successful pastorate of close to 30 years! Welcome to FPC-Cape Sam!

Also you are encouraged to wear *casual attire*—Breakout those tropical shirts, jeans, and more. Our church is joining the world of comfort and flexible attire. “Business Casual” (a term adopted in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century) has been known to improve the work-place morale of many successful enterprises. We hope it does the same on Sunday mornings and throughout the week for First Presbyterian in the 21<sup>st</sup> century!

## Book Club

The Book Club will meet on Thursday, June 11, 2015 at the home of Sharon Metcalfe, 2916 Bella Vista, at 7 p.m. The discussion will be on the book, “The Third Hill North of Town,” by Noah Bly. Please call Sharon at 651- 5274 to let her know you can attend. The July selection is “Benjamin Franklin’s Bastard” by Sally Cabot. The hostess for that evening will be Jeanne Hirsch.



## “SECRET AGENTS FOR GOD”

### Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars for July 12th - July 16th for this year’s Vacation Bible School. We will be joining with both Westminster Presbyterian Church and Christ Episcopal Church at Westminster for our Bible lessons and fun. Lessons and activities will run from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday through Wednesday nights. There will be classes for children age 4 and above and a separate adult class. We will be focusing our lessons around the story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho. There will be a special CELEBRATION PICNIC ON THURSDAY NIGHT, July 16th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for all children, families and church members from the three churches. We will celebrate all that we have learned and shared during our VBS. Please call the church office (335-2579) to register so we can plan our materials.



*“I am the resurrection and the life”*

Sina L. Kaiser

July 5, 1927-April 30, 2015



## Memorials

*“Death is not extinguishing the light. It is turning out the lamp because the dawn has come.”*  
*Rabindranath Tagore, a Bengali poet*

Memorials have been received in memory of:

**Sina Kaiser**, from John & Jeanne Hirsch, Nelson Kasten, Sharon Metcalfe, Ruth Needle, Dan Neely, Ray & Ann Ritter, Kitty Rueseler, Brucee Woods, Daytime Circle, Madge Ridings, Paul & Ann Brinkopf, Ed & Sue Burford, Sheree Sperling, Sarah Barks, Harry Rediger, Stephen & Marsha Limbaugh, James & Beverly Hirsch, Tom & Willorene Phillips, Ann & Robert Fisher, Barbara Calvin, Winifred Hirsch, Robert & Ann Parkinson, John Folwell, Vonda Slinkard, Virginia Goodwin, Bill Port, Jane Ella Potashnick, Leland Shivelbine, Joan Slaughter, Paul & Alice Kabo, Martha Stickler

**Jessie Jo Bryan**, from the Bryan & Fisher Family



Pastor Kim presenting a check for \$2500. to Danny Holloway, Administrator of the Amen Center in Delta. FPC Cape raised money from our Rummage Sale to benefit both the Amen Center and the HOPE House.



***SURPRISE Graduation Gathering  
for Lauren Bishop***  
*Just drop by or stay and hang out.*

*Sunday, June 7th  
1 - 5 p.m.  
1211 Sailer Circle*

*NO Gifts... cards welcomed.  
Food, sodas & beer provided.*

*If you are unable to join us, please, text  
congrats to her phone or to 573-270-7019  
sometime after 2 p.m.*

### **Christian Education Celebration**

The Christian Education Committee thanked their Sunday School teachers for their teaching ministry at a luncheon after worship on Sunday, May 17th. The teachers who were recognized were: Pastor Kim Nelson, Becky Nelson, Sandy Wilhelm, Missy Smith, Kate Broeckling, Cherie Herbst, Kathy Woodfin, Melissa Harris, and Kathy Brown. They also surprised Kathy Woodfin and presented her with a special gift and a basket of thank you cards to honor her for her many years of service taking care of the children in the church nursery. The teachers all received flowering plants and everyone enjoyed cake for dessert.

The CE Committee would like to say thank you to Joyce Rayfield for preparing the delicious lunch and to Peg Hirschburg for decorating all the tables. Anyone who was not able to attend the luncheon is encouraged to say thank you to the teachers whenever they see them.

### **First Facts**

In the future, First Facts will be run and mailed before the end of the month. Shirley would appreciate help with the preparation for mailing. This involves folding, applying labels and sealing. If you would be willing to help, call the church office (335-2579) to volunteer. Shirley will contact you when needed. With a couple of volunteers each month, the job goes very quickly.

### **From the Session**

At the stated May 20, 2015 meeting of the Session, the Elders did the following:

1. The Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Session held on April 15, 2015 were approved.
2. Received the committee reports.
3. Passed a recommendation to change worship to 10 a.m. for the summer months.
4. Accepted five new members.
5. Next meeting is June 17, 2015.



## Recognizing our College Choral Scholars



We are always so blessed to have our Music Ministry Volunteers share their talents throughout the year. Today we want to recognize our SEMO College Choral Scholars who bring so much vitality to our choir program.

**Kayla Nicholas** transferred to SEMO from East Central College, near her home in Warrenton, MO. She has sung in the University Choir, Chamber Choir, and the Choral Union. This is Kayla's second year to participate as a First Presbyterian Choral Scholar. We have been blessed with her many solos and her enthusiasm for her many First Presbyterian Choir friends. She will be dearly missed as she transfers back home to continue her Music Education studies with the Central Methodist University extension program. We wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors and hope she comes to visit on occasion.

**Riley Kurré**, from Perryville, is a Sophomore at SEMO and recently changed his major to Music Education. He and his twin brother (who attends SIU) are the oldest of five children. He sings in the University Choir and the Chamber Choir, and has sung in the Opera Scenes Performances.

**Christopher Morgan**, from Liberty, MO, is a Freshman at SEMO, majoring in Musical Theater. Chris sings in the Chamber Choir. In the recent production of "The King and I" at the River Campus Chris was in the Ensemble Chorus and also part of the King's household staff. We have been blessed to hear him play his Viola in our service from time to time.

**Brittany Moleski** is a Freshman Music Education Major at SEMO and sings in the University Choir. She hails from the Saint Louis Area and has one older sister and one younger brother. Brittany has also participated in the Opera Scenes Performances.

**Kendall Staggs** is a Sophomore at SEMO, majoring in Vocal Music Performance. He is from Jackson, Tennessee and had the opportunity to travel to Spain last year with his SEMO Spanish class. He sings in the University Choir and the Chamber Choir. Kendall also sang in the Opera Scene performances. This is Kendall's second year to participate as a First Presbyterian Choral Scholar.

We also want to recognize one more college student in our choir, a future SEMO student and probable SEMO Choral Student Scholar at our church. **Alex Mitchell**, fourth from the left, is a Freshman at Three Rivers College in Poplar Bluff. Alex and his mother, Sheri, joined the choir upon their recent return to Southeast Missouri after several years in Southern California. Sheri previously sang in our choir for ten years, and even sang here while she was a student at SEMO! Alex has played the guitar in our church and recently did the role of "Curly" in the Three Rivers College production of "Oklahoma!"

Our community is blessed to have a college, and we at First Presbyterian are blessed to have these young people in our service. Keep them in your prayers as they make decisions about their future. We thank them for all they contribute to our worship.

**First Presbyterian Church**  
P.O. Box 477  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63702

A Letter to the Members and Friends of First Presbyterian Church of Cape,

We have much to be thankful for about the many ministries in and around our church. One of the areas of thankfulness is that of our financial stewardship. At the end of the first third of 2015, many anticipated sources of income are ahead of schedule. Individual pledges, per capita, open plate and building use fees are all slightly ahead of anticipated income.

However, as shared with you at our Annual meeting which took place on Sunday, February 8, our general operating budget over the past several years has relied on our savings account to balance. Similar to last year, it is anticipated that we will require up to \$40,000 from our savings account in order to balance the budget and cover our accounts payable. This admission to our annual budgetary shortfalls is not easy to admit but will not disappear without the entire Body of Christ becoming involved.

The Session has trimmed this year's budget to the bone prior to the beginning of the year. Several purchases and projects have been reduced or eliminated. All Mission projects approved by the Mission Committee and Session will be funded by special offerings, donations and fund raisers. To that end, receipts from our recent successful rummage sale have helped fund the AMEN Center and the Hope House!

As generous as those special gifts have been, they do not reduce the general fund deficit that is growing each month by close to \$3,500. That seems like an impossible amount in some ways. For an individual, it is a substantial amount of money. However, for a congregation of close to 100 giving individuals or families, that becomes a very manageable amount.

Could you prayerfully consider increasing your monthly gift to the church by \$30, \$50 or \$100? Or you may wish to give a one time larger gift. God will provide, through you, the necessary financial resources for our congregation to continue its fine tradition and growth into the future.

This Body of Christ looks forward to receiving your additional gift as we continue to build into the future.

Sincerely in Christ,

Paul Farris  
Chairperson, Finance Committee

Kim L. Nelson  
Pastor

# First Facts

## First Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 477

Cape Girardeau, MO 63702

Phone: 573-335-2579

FAX: 573-335-5639

web address: [www.firstpccape.org](http://www.firstpccape.org)

e-mail: [fpresbyt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fpresbyt@sbcglobal.net)



Rev. Dr. Kim L. Nelson, Pastor  
Sunday Service of Worship - 10:00 a.m.

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### **American Red Cross Blood Drive Comes to First Presbyterian**

On Monday, June 29, our church will host a blood drive from 2 to 6 p.m. The American Red Cross is seeking blood donors in our downtown area or those who would like to commute to the Old Town area. The blood drive will take place in the Fellowship Hall.

This is another great opportunity to embrace a community need and provide a renewed image for our church to the community. Red Cross volunteers will be there AND we should be too. We are currently looking for a few enthusiastic church members who can give 2 to 4 hours of their time on the afternoon of June 29.

These volunteers will be present throughout the drive to greet donors and work side by side with the American Red Cross volunteers doing whatever is necessary to help the staff and donors. Church volunteers will wear their church name tags which will tell people that this is their church and "if you would like to know more, just ask me!"

To become a volunteer, please call the church office no later than Monday, June 22, for more information.