

First Facts

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

FROM THE PASTOR

To All the Wonderful Saints in and around First Presbyterian Church of Cape,

I am writing this note on a Monday morning when our local weather forecaster has informed us that it is negative 5 degrees outside with the windchill factor. Last week the web site of our local TV station, KFVS, listed the multitude of school closures. During TV and radio broadcasts we received multiple updates on the dangerous weather conditions. Weather Warnings or Weather Watches were constantly streaming across our computer monitors and TV screens. As I received these important weather related warnings, I was desiring to have a more specialized program for our congregation.

I contacted Ruling Elder Nancy Bray, co-chairperson of Christian Outreach Committee to discuss how we as a church could best make sure that all the members and friends of our congregation were safe and secure during these times of severe weather. Nancy along with the members of the Committee call on a regular basis several 'more senior' members who are living by themselves and maybe unable to get out during the more difficult weather days. I think the Committee is doing a great ministry. But we also want to make sure that no one is unintentionally 'slipping through the cracks.' We want to make sure 'no one is left out' in the cold, literally and figuratively.

I am recommending to the Christian Outreach Committee and our Session that we compile a voluntary list of those individuals, couples or families who wish to be contacted by another member of the Church in times of severe or dangerous weather conditions. It maybe during an extreme cold/snow spell as we are currently enduring. Or it maybe during another type of emergency which could occur during anytime of the year.

If you would like to be on an emergency contact list where you minimally receive a telephone call to confirm your safety and comfort, please contact the Church Office at 573-335-2579 or email us at fpresbyt@sbcglobal.net. If you are in need of assistance, church volunteers maybe able to assist you. We have assisted members and friends of our congregation by going grocery shopping, providing transportation to medical appointments, and delivering a warm meal especially to those recovering from a hospitalization. *However, if your condition is critical and life threatening, CALL 9-1-1.* The First Responders of the City of Cape Girardeau and our County are trained for emergency situations.

I thought there should be a similar 'Spiritual Warning or Watch' program in addition to our inclement weather alerts. How great it would be if there was a way for us to alert one another when we find ourselves going through one of those rough patches of life. It is so meaningful and spiritually support when you are able to share your burden with one another and lift each other up to God in prayer. You find Biblical encouragement for this in the book of James, chapter 5:15-16.

The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has

committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

The elected Ruler Elders, other church members and our ministry staff are willing to be available to you when that time in life comes and you need a spiritual prayer partner. The Christian Outreach Committee also is available to assist at anytime. (We also are forming two new women's fellowship circles. These new fellowship groups will provide wonderful support through prayer and Bible study. See the article in this edition of *First Facts*.)

If you would like to be 'on call' for spiritual assistance to others, please contact the church office and/or Nancy Bray of the Christian Outreach Committee. Let's make sure no one 'falls through the cracks' of our prayerful care of one another.

In His Grace, Pastor Kim



Flowers for Worship

On February 1 & 8, the flowers in the sanctuary were given in memory of Betty Sitter.

Worship Attendance

February 1	112
February 8	82
February 15	67
February 22	9

Treasurer's Report

As of January 31, 2015

Year to Date Income	\$16,500
Year to Date Expenses	\$22,132
Expenses Greater than Income	\$5,623

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

Book Club

The Book Club will meet on Thursday, March 19, 2015 at the home of Sandy Wilhelm, 1805 Timberlane at 7 p.m. Please note that this is a week later than the usual date. The discussion will be on the book, "West with the Wind," by Beryl Markham. Please call Sandy at 335-2286 to let her know that you can attend. The April book selection will be "Bittersweet," by Colleen McCullough and will meet at the home of Joan Slaughter. The May selection is "The Goldfinch" by Donna Tartt and the hostess for that evening will be Jean Cairns.

Daytime Circle

The Daytime Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at the Chateau at 11 a.m. with Sina Kaiser serving as hostess. Please call Sina at 651-8403 to let her know you can come so she can have an accurate lunch count. Please read Lesson Two beginning on page 16 of our 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 @ \$13.00 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 at this time.

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. —————



“I am the resurrection and the life”

Betty Sitter

August 23, 1928 - January 23, 2015



March Meal-A-Month

Can of tuna

Cream of mushroom soup

Package of noodles

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:

Jessie Bryan, from The Penny Loafers

Rudie Slaughter, from Marvin Blakemore, Harold Buxton, Marlena Pind, Kristen & Victor Slaughter, Vic & Sybl Slaughter, Jean & Bill Ohlhausen, John & Jeanne Hirsch, J.P. & Ann Tlappek, Bob & Cherie Herbst, William Heyde, Patricia Strom

Betty Sitter, from Bob & Ann Parkinson, Ruth Needle, Stephen & Patricia Strom, Joe & Linda Belote, Tamara & Gary West, Sue Vogelsanger, Jean Mabrey, Madge Ridings, Cheryl & Kermit Gerhardt, Sharon Metcalfe, Kitty Rueseler, Marlena & Jerry Pind, Bill Port, Georganne & Bill Syler, John & Jeanne Hirsch, Joan Slaughter, Kim & Becky Nelson, Bob & Cherie Herbst, Kathleen Gibbons

Barbara Klassen, from Bob & Cherie Herbst

New Women's Fellowship Circles starting this month!

Becky Nelson and a few others are interested in forming two new monthly fellowship circles for women in the church. Our new evening circle is for working gals and will most likely meet on a Monday night. A new daytime circle is for those recently retired. And presently we already have a dynamic Daytime Circle for the "more mature" that often meets at the Chateau. Surely there is a group for you! Our plans are to meet once a month for a time of study, sharing and caring for one another.

For more information about the new circles contact Becky Nelson at 415.517.9444 (e-mail: nelsonrh@sbcglobal.net) or the Church Office at 573.335.2579 (e-mail: fpresbyt@sbcglobal.net). Watch your Sunday bulletin for times and locations. We may even choose to meet at a coffee shop!

Easter Morning Coffee

The Christian Education Committee invites everyone to come to the Fellowship Hall, instead of the Parlor, for coffee and treats on Easter morning after our Easter Egg Hunt. You are welcome to come early to watch the children hunt for their eggs on the courthouse lawn at 9:15 a.m.



Easter Egg Hunt and Activities

Please join the Christian Education committee on Easter morning for some special Easter activities. We will have an Easter Egg Hunt for the children at 9:15 a.m. Children and families should meet in our Fellowship Hall at 9:15 to gather and then go outdoors together to the courthouse lawn to hunt for Easter eggs. (The egg hunt will be held inside if it rains.) After the egg hunt we will return to the Fellowship Hall for Easter treats and activities. Everyone in our church family is welcome to join us for the fun and food!

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.
- Easter Worship, April 5, 10:30 a.m.

From the Session

At the stated February 25, 2015 meeting of the Session, the Elders did the following:

1. The Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Session held on February 25, 2015 were approved.
2. Accepted transfers of membership from Alice Kabo, Becky Betz and Jo Peukert.
3. Discussed the April 11th Rummage sale.
4. Accepted the bid of \$6,329.18 for work at the Activities Building.
5. The Executive Committee is comprised of the Clerk of Session (yet to be determined), Dale Watkins and Kathy Brown.
6. The Personnel Committee is now a separate committee and is chaired by Janna Tuck. Other non-session members will comprise the committee.
7. Passed a motion to accept all committee reports.
8. Next meeting is March 18, 2015.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, April 19th at 7 p.m.

BLEND will be performing here at First Presbyterian Church. Blend is the a cappella quartet that brings back all of those fun loving memories of the 50's and 60's with a twist of fun. They mix the great music of yesteryear with today's comedy. BLEND is a show you don't want to miss! Please contact Melissa Harris at 579-4977 if you have any questions..

Soda cans for \$\$\$\$

FPC Mission Committee asks you to donate your empty aluminum cans (soda and beer) to support the St Louis Ronald McDonald Houses. Bring them in a plastic bag on Sundays or anytime during the week to the church office. You can drop off in the Green Recycle containers in the Narthex or give to Shirley or Jean in the office. We will recycle them and donate the money to the Ronald McDonald Houses in St Louis.

Ronald McDonald Houses are located near major medical centers to provide free housing for families with hospitalized children. There are three in St Louis (near Barnes, St Louis U and Missouri Baptist) and one at St Jude's in Memphis. We have collected soda pull tabs for years to support the houses, but are now are encouraging you to bring the entire can—more aluminum more money! Ask your friends and neighbors to save them for First Presbyterian and Ronald McDonald. We will come pick them up if you collect so many they are unwieldy! Please help support our mission to help our neighbors during difficult times in their lives.

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!



April 11, 2015 • 7 a.m. - noon

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 our Activities Building. We are looking for items such as household goods, linens, furniture, luggage, books, decorative items, toys and small appliances. If would like help transporting, please call the church office (335-2579) and we will pick up your items. No clothing, please.



Gather, Share and Eat

Come join us on **March 8, 2015** for our next Gather, Share, and Eat. We will have 35 extra guests, so it would be much appreciated if we knew how many regulars are planning to attend. Our menu will be: chicken casserole, green beans, salad, hot bread, and fruit cobbler. So please join us!



Kudos to Sina Kaiser!

Gracing the chancel of our sanctuary are three new Lenten paraments. They were made by hand by Sina Kaiser.

The ecclesiastical artwork portrays significant Lenten themes. The unblemished **Lamb and Cross** represents the Lamb of God who comes to take away the sin of the world. The **Crown of Thorns** and three spikes represent the trial and crucifixion of Christ and the **Three Crosses** on the communion table symbolize Calvary where Christ was put to death. Thank you Sina for your many hours of creative work to help us focus on the liturgical season of Lent.

MARCH 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.

1 ST	Gina Thomas	17 TH	Synod of the Sun
2 ND	Cuba	18 TH	Presbytery of Arkansas
3 RD	Nicaragua	19 TH	Cimarron Presbytery
4 TH	Costa Rica	20 TH	Phillip & Joanna Shaver (anniversary)
5 TH	Honduras	21 ST	Grace Presbytery
6 TH	El Salvador	22 ND	Jane Stahly (birthday)
7 TH	Guatemala	23 RD	Ed Kaiser, Becky Betz (birthday)
8 TH	Mexico		Bob & Donna Pikey (anniversary)
9 TH	Judy Rueseler, Jo Renfrow (birthday)	24 TH	Ann Bartlett (birthday)
10 TH	Bryan Harris, Rachel Knapp (birthday)	25 TH	Ruby Rice, Ricky Ruditys (birthday)
11 TH	Judy Brown (birthday)	26 TH	Palo Duro Presbytery
12 TH	Presbytery de Cristo	27 TH	Presbytery of the Pines
13 TH	The Presbytery of Grand Canyon	28 TH	The Presbytery of South Louisiana
14 TH	Nadia Durow (birthday)	29 TH	The Presbytery of Tres Rios
15 TH	Presbytery of Sante Fe	30 TH	Tom Phillips (birthday)
16 TH	The Presbytery of Sierra Blanca	31 ST	Byron & Wyn Ward (anniversary)

From the Mission Yearbook of Prayer and Study

O God, you created all people in your image. We thank you for the astonishing variety of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of friendship and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen

March 2015

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
1 10 30 am Communion Worship Service	2	3	4 7 30 pm Choir	5 1 00 pm Afternoon Circle	6	7																																																																																																		
8 10 30 am Worship Service Briar Cliff University Choir Gather Share & Eat	9 7 00 pm Property Meeting	10 11 00 am Morning Circle	11 6 00pm Worship & Art Meeting 7 30 pm Choir	12	13	14																																																																																																		
15 10 30 am Worship Service Celebration of Birthdays & Anniversaries	16	17	18 6 30 pm Session Meeting 7 30 pm Choir	19 7 00 pm Book Club	20	21																																																																																																		
22 10 30 am Worship Service NW Mo State University Choir 5 30 pm Marriage Enrichment Class	23	24	25 7 30 pm Choir	26 6 30 pm Mission Meeting 6 45 pm Evening Circle	27	28																																																																																																		
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First Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 477

Cape Girardeau, MO 63702

Phone: 573-335-2579

FAX: 573-335-5639

web address: www.firstpccape.org

e-mail: fpresbyt@sbcglobal.net



Rev. Dr. Kim L. Nelson, Pastor

Sunday Church School - 9 a.m.

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

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PERMIT NO. 15
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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.