

First Facts

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



A Recipe for Thanksgiving

Planning for annual Thanksgiving gatherings often begin when we rotate our calendars over to November. 'Who will be traveling to whose home?' and 'who is going to prepare the family's favorite traditional recipes?' are often the questions first asked.

The options are carefully considered.

- "Is the burden of all the grown children returning to the family home too much for mom and dad to handle?"
- "If we do decide to return to our family home, mom and dad should not have to prepare anything. We should divide up the recipes and bring them already prepared."
- "Maybe we should make reservations to go out as a family."
- "I'm not sure how I feel about having our Thanksgiving meal at a restaurant and not around our family table. I have so many great memories of everyone gathering around that one long table."

There are many, many questions to consider as our National Holiday approaches. The most important question, however, is to ponder the elements or recipe for living a thankful life. The anticipation and embracing of our National Holiday of Thanksgiving can be a feeling that should be a part of a Christian's daily life. Each day can be filled with the anticipation of meeting people, sometimes family; sometimes neighbors; sometimes strangers; sometimes anticipated; sometimes a complete surprise. Each day can be filled with the telling and listening to stories about love and life. Each day can be filled with expressing true love and compassion to another human being.

Living with a spirit of thankfulness ignites a contagious joy. Everyone who comes in contact with you is filled with an appreciation of life. It maybe in a brief telephone conversation or during a long walk together. Giving thanks is something that should never be limited to just one day. It can be a lifestyle which faithfully reflects the joy of Christ within you.

May this season of Thanksgiving grow within you to become a part of your everyday life.

In His Unfathomable Graciousness,
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: Both Children's Sunday School Classes will begin their new studies on Sunday, September 13th. They will continue to meet after the Kid's Message in worship. The Lower Grade's Class will meet in their classroom next to the Nursery. Kathy Woodfin and Cherie Herbst will be teaching this class. The curriculum will focus on "The Stories of the Old Testament" based on the *Read and Learn Bible*. The Upper Grade's Class will meet in their classroom on the second floor. Their curriculum will focus on studying "The Parables of Jesus". This class will be team taught by Kathy Brown, Melissa Harris, Sandy Wilhelm, Kate Broeckling and Julie Harrison.

Adult Class: Bible 101 - a survey course, taught by Pastor Kim, covering the entire Bible, its history, context, tools of interpretation. Answering the questions about the Bible but you were afraid to ask!

Sunday School - 9 a.m.

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

Worship Attendance

October 4	64
October 11	64
October 18	72
October 25	73

Treasurer's Report

As of September 30, 2015

Year to Date Income	\$148,541
Year to Date Expenses	\$209,389
Expenses Greater than Income	\$60,848

Investments	Market Value
Permanent Endowment	\$240,931
Restricted Investments	41,281
General Fund Savings	279,407
Presbyterian Investment	133,718

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 were given on September 18, in memory of Mary Ann Reichert, (birthday, October 22) from her sister, Ruth Needle.

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sept 25, were given to the glory of God and in honor of our sister, Catherine Rueseler from the McGowans.

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.

November Meal-A-Month

- 2 cans tomato soup
- Can of evaporated milk
- Box of Crackers
- 2 cans fruit of choice

(Please put in the box in the Narthex)

Book Club

The November book selection is *Girl on the Train* by Paula Walker and the meeting will be on November 12 at Sharon Metcalfe's home. Join us! The reading of the selected book is not required.



Community Thanksgiving Service

Members from many different denominations will gather on Sunday, November 22, at 4 p.m. at the Bethel Assembly of God Church, 1855 Perryville Road. Clergy from around the city will be participating as well. The Service will feature several different musical groups and styles. Each attendee is encouraged to bring at least one can of food for the local Food Bank. The monetary offering will support "Love In the Name of Christ (INC)" ministries. Love INC coordinates several homeless and at risk programs to serve the needs of our community.

In observance of Thanksgiving, the church office will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and also Friday, November 27.



Veteran's Day Photos Needed

We will once again honor our Veterans on Sunday, November 8th with a wonderful power-point presentation. If we missed you in the past, or if you are new to the church, please send a scanned photo of yourself in uniform to Pastor Nelson at revknelson@sbcglobal.net, or leave it in the church office mailbox by November 1st.

Daytime Circle

The Daytime Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 in the Chateau dining room at 11 a.m. We will order off the menu and each person will be responsible for their own lunch.

November's discussion will be Lesson 7 from our study book "PSALMS" by Sue Edwards. This chapter will cover Psalm 103, so if you would like to join us, but do not have a study book, by reading this Psalm you will be ready to participate in the discussion. If you plan to attend, please call Sharon Metcalfe at 651-5274 or Ruth Needle at 334-4515 and let one of them know you are coming so that arrangements may be made for a table big enough to accommodate all of us.



STEWARDSHIP
SUNDAY

Stewardship Sunday, November 8

Each gift is precious to God. Your financial gifts have been and will continue to be appreciated. Our church is facing important financial decisions in 2016. The Finance Committee and Session are determined to increase the average pledge so that it will not be necessary to depend on unrestricted endowment funds. You already should have received a special stewardship letter and pledge card from the Church. If you have not, please call the church office 573-335-2579.

On Sunday, November 8, we will dedicate our pledges and commitments for 2016. The Session will adopt a budget based on the total amount of pledges received. Once approved by the Session, the 2016 General Budget will be shared with the congregation and also will be printed in the 2015 Annual Report published in late January.

Mission Committee

On Sunday, October 18, a partial distribution from the Louis Sewell Local Mission Endowment was made. The first recipient was the Safe House for Women and Children of Cape Girardeau. A check for \$2,000 was presented to Becky Holloway, Court Advocate for Safe House. Ms. Holloway was present at worship with her son, Kevin. She shared about the importance of the Safe House for our community. Domestic violence knows no boundaries. Statistics show that it occurs in all races, economic levels and in every community of Cape County. Safe House has assisted over 700 women and children just in the last year.



Lou died on February 19, 2014. His estate established a permanent endowment that funds a variety of local programs and ministries meeting the needs of those less fortunate in our community.

The Session has carefully invested his permanent gift with the Presbyterian Foundation. Each year the dividends and interest will be distributed by the Session under the guidance of our Mission Committee. This year's recipients are the Safe House, Salvation Army Emergency Response Fund and the FISH Food Pantry. On Sunday, November 1, Bob Sheets, Treasurer of the FISH Food Pantry will be present with us to receive their gift of \$2,000. Dr. Sheets is a retired Mathematics Professor from SEMO where he was a colleague of Lou's.

Sunday Evening Class

Pastor Kim will offer a **Sunday evening class starting on October 4 using Dr. Jack Rogers' book, *Jesus, The Bible and Homosexuality: Explode the Myths, Heal the Church***. This evening class will be open to the public and it is an opportunity for members of other churches and others to attend. This study will carefully examine the Bible and our Book of Confessions as we consider our society's and Church's dramatic changes in our acceptance of gays and lesbians into the life and leadership of our communities and churches. Tentatively this class will meet in the Library at 6 p.m. from October 4-November 15. Please read the weekly bulletin or check out our website for updates.

Mission Collections

This year we collected \$357.11 for Heifer and for Peru we collected \$631.56, and sent \$1,000 total.



Top row: Dillon Davis, Lindsay Walk, Lana Davis, Bottom row: Tami, River and Dusti Miller

Sacrament of Baptism

On Sunday, October 18, our congregation was blessed to participate in the Sacrament of Baptism of River Immanuel Miller, son of Dusti and Tami Miller.

River was born at St. Francis Medical Center on Saturday, September 26. Several members of our congregation provided meals delivered to their home for the first couple of weeks as an expression of love and support. Thank you all for your prayers and lovely meals! The continued congregational support of River includes our outstanding nursery care on Sunday mornings by Kathy Woodfin and as the years progress, the Sunday School teachers and assistants who will help River come to know the love of God in his life.

NOVEMBER 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	Beverly Hirsch (birthday)	17 TH	Russia
2 ND	PC (USA) Agencies' Staff	18 TH	Afghanistan
3 RD	Europe	19 TH	Donna Farris
4 TH	Joyce Rayfield, Jo Peukert (birthday)	20 TH	Armenia
5 TH	Ireland/Northern Ireland	21 ST	Central Asia
6 TH	United Kingdom	22 ND	Woody Woodfin (birthday)
7 TH	Scotland	23 RD	Wilma Harris (birthday)
8 TH	Rebecca Nelson (birthday)	24 TH	Dr. Ed Burford, Mary Davis (birthday)
9 TH	Portugal	25 TH	Middle East
10 TH	Julia Woodfin (birthday)	26 TH	Jim Logan (birthday) Rob & Sarah Ross; Paul & Donna Farris (anniversary)
11 TH	Sue Burford (birthday)		
12 TH	Germany	27 TH	Egypt
13 TH	Lithuania	28 TH	Bill Syler (birthday)
14 TH	Czech Republic	29 TH	Israel/Palestine/Jerusalem
15 TH	Sharon McCune (birthday)	30 TH	Annabelle Spencer
16 TH	Sharon Metcalfe, (birthday)		

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.

November 2015

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																			
1 10:00 am Coffee & fellowship 10:30 am Communion Worship Service 6:30pm Jesus, The Bible and Homosexuality Class	2 6 30 pm Mission Meeting 7 00 pm Property Meeting	3	4 6 30 pm handbells 7 30 pm Choir Practice	5	6 10:00am World Community Day at Centenary Family Life Center	7																																																																																																			
8 10 00 am Coffee & fellowship 10 30 am Worship Service 12 00 pm Gather, Share & Eat 6 30pm Jesus, The Bible and Homosexuality Class	9	10 10:00am Daytime Circle	11 6 00 pm Worship & Art Meeting 6 30 pm handbells 7 30 pm Choir Practice	12 7:00 pm Book Club	13	14 10:00am Presbytery Meeting 6:00 pm Trivia Night																																																																																																			
15 10:00 am Coffee & fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service 12:00pm Session Meeting	16	17	18 6 30 pm handbells 7 30 pm Choir Practice	19	20	21																																																																																																			
22 10:00 am Coffee & fellowship 10 30 am Worship Service 4 00pm Community Thanksgiving Service at Temple Assembly of God	23	24	25 6 30 pm handbells 7 30 pm Choir Practice	26 Thanksgiving Holiday Office closed	27 Thanksgiving Holiday Office closed	28																																																																																																			
29 10:00 am Coffee & fellowship 10:30 am Worship Service Dark Parade of Lights	30	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Oct 2015</th> <th colspan="7">Dec 2015</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Oct 2015							Dec 2015							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3				1	2	3	4	5	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30	31		
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Website

We now have the newsletters, bulletins and sermons on our website. The first of the year, we will no longer mail the newsletters to everyone. We will post them on our website and have copies in the Narthex. If you do not have access to a computer and can't make it to church, call the office and we will add you to a short mailing list. You will be able to see the newsletters much quicker than mailing them and save the church money. www.firstpccape.org

NAACP Presents TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday November 14 at 7 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
235 Broadway

Teams of 8
\$20 per person/\$160 per team.

To register email: naacpsemo@gmail.com



World Community Day

The 2015 World Community Day will be held at Centenary Family Life Center on Friday, November 6, 2015 beginning with registration at 9:30 a.m. The program will begin at 10 a.m. This event is sponsored by Church Women United.



POINSETTIAS will once again fill the sanctuary beginning December 13th. If you wish to purchase one in honor or memory of a loved one (or for any other reason of the season) please fill in the order blank below and return it to the church office or place in the offering plate during Sunday worship by December 9th. The cost of the poinsettias will be \$8.00 each. Please contact Donna Pikey with any questions.

I/We would like to place a poinsettia in the church sanctuary.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Other _____

First Facts

First Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 477

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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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First Presbyterian Church

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