

— First Facts —

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



Fall Season

The Changing of the Season

Fall is that unique time of year where we look for the dramatic signs of our seasonal change. The reduced humidity is appreciated by all. The sun rises a little later each day and sets a little earlier each evening. Our landscape is shaped by the thousands of deciduous trees whose leaves are beginning to turn a pale yellow with more brilliant colors just a few days or weeks away. There is a crispness to the morning air when I walk our dog that is refreshing and quickly wakes us up to greet the new day. Change is surrounding us.

Sometimes change is gradual and sometimes it just appears. Last night we were treated to a very rare astronomical event. It was a supermoon total lunar eclipse. The last supermoon eclipse occurred in 1982; and the next one won't take place until 2033. Unless you are an astronomer and are aware of the cycle of these events, we rely on our local news to keep us informed of such unique and beautiful events. I hope you were able to take advantage of our clear skies and watch the shadow of the earth overtake the well-lit moon. This singular total eclipse lasted just over an hour. Sometimes change is like that. It can come and go quickly.

I want you to think of another change. This one is spiritual in nature. It is our relationship with God which I think can have 'seasons' of its own. This 'Fall season' is a perfect time of renewal - a renewal of your relationship with God. You might have recently come through a time of extreme 'heat' where the pressures of life seemed overwhelming; you might have been on a long vacation - distant from God yet reminded along the way that you are loved by God unconditionally and that He/She has wondered where you have been. You might have thought you have just been too busy to think and ponder about your spiritual life. If you have been too busy to think about God, then you are in desperate need of a change. This *CHANGE* brings forth life and energy which affects everything in and around you.

You are a part of a vibrant and dedicated Body of Christ here at the First Presbyterian Church of Cape Girardeau. As you change and are transformed, so too are we. Scripture reminds us that we are being perfected into a likeness of Christ. It is seen in the care of our neighbors; and in the greeting of a new born child like River Immanuel Miller and Ryyker Vankorkum; in delivering paper goods and monetary donations to the AMEN Center to feed the homeless; in stopping by a friend's home to just check in and finding out they could use a listening ear; and in delivering a dinner and offering a prayer to a neighbor down the street. As a congregation, the likeness of Christ has been seen recently in the support of Pink Up Cape and providing free medical check ups to women who cannot afford them; in our support of Jeb and Jenny Koball, our Presbyterian Missionaries in Peru, as they care and inspired the many young families in the upper Andes Mountains.

cont.

During the month of October we will be emphasizing our important commitment to Ministries of Change. You are an important part of this magnificent ministry. Enclosed in this newsletter is your opportunity to express your commitment of financial support for the coming year. There are challenges ahead for our congregation which will require CHANGES individually and corporately. One of those changes is an increase to your financial pledge. Please prayerfully consider increasing your pledge so that we can continue our missions and ministries to our community and world.

We will dedicate our pledges on Sunday, November 1. Please bring or mail your pledge card to the church on or before that date. (For those reading this newsletter on line, please call the church office and we will make sure you are sent a pledge card. You also may pick one up at the Church.)

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Kim



Worship Attendance

September 6	73
September 13	78
September 20	97
September 27	79

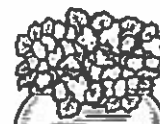
Treasurer's Report

As of August 31, 2015

Year to Date Income	\$134,880
Year to Date Expenses	\$184,960
Expenses Greater than Income	\$50,080

Investments	Market Value
Permanent Endowment	\$246,325
Restricted Investments	42,173
General Fund Savings	285,718
Presbyterian Investment	140,767

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 September 13 were given in honor of Rebecca Nelson's mother.

On September 27, the flowers were in memory of Bill Needle's birthday (Oct. 1) from Ruth Needle.

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.

October Meal-A-Month

- 2 cans kidney beans
- 2 cans tomatoes
- chili seasoning packet
- 2 cans fruit of choice

(Please put in the box in the Narthex)

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: Beginning Sunday morning, October 4, Pastor Kim begins a new class, Bible 101 - a survey course 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.

Book Club

The October meeting will be on Thursday, October 8 at the home of Ruth Needle. The October book is *In the Unlikely Event* by Judy Blume. 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.

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

Daytime Circle

The Daytime Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 in the Chateau dining room at 11 a.m. At the September meeting it was decided that for the convenience of our members who live at the Chateau, all of our meetings this year should take place in the Chateau dining room with those participating ordering off the menu and each person being responsible for their own lunch.

October's discussion will be Lesson 6 from our study book "PSALMS" by Sue Edwards. This chapter covers Psalms 51 and 32, so if you would like to join us, but do not have a study book, by reading these two Psalms 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.



First Presbyterian church of Cape and Jackson are joining together to have a Halloween party.

This year it will be at the Jackson First Presbyterian Church. It is Sunday, October 18th from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. You can wear your costume if you like but you do not have to. There will be lots of snacks. We have some fun games planned, including the kids favorite... cake walk, bean bag toss and a new one...it's a surprise! We also will be doing a couple of crafts which involve paint. Sandy Rahlfs (from 1st Pres in Jackson) and Melissa hope to see you there. Please RSVP to Melissa Harris at 579-4977 by October 14.

Pink Up!

Thank you, First Cape! Pink Up Cape has collected \$570. from our members. This amount will provide for almost 6 mammographies for women in need.

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.



Cans

The recycling bin in the Narthex is not only for bulletins. We are still collecting cans for the Ronald McDonald House. Bring your bag of cans for recycling. Do something good for yourself, a charity and the planet.

Thank You

A big thank you to Melissa Harris and the Congregation for the baby shower and all the gifts. We are grateful and feel blessed to be part of the church family.

Dusti and Tami Miller

From the Session

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

1. The Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Session held on Wednesday, August 19 were approved.
2. Received the committee reports.
3. Were reminded that committees should begin working on their budgets for 2016.
4. Were reminded of the shortfall in our budget and that pledges for 2016 are due November 1.
5. Called a special meeting of the Elders and Task Force for Saturday, September 26.
6. Next meeting is Sunday, November 15.

FPC Choir

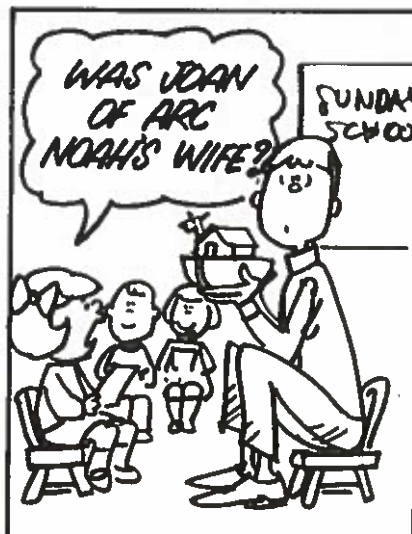


*If you
hear
the
music
Join
The
Singing*

Our choir is off to a great start with a post- rehearsal gathering at Andy's. Yum! Join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. No audition needed.



Also, our Handbell Group will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, October 7 at 6:30 p.m. All levels of ringers are welcome.



OCTOBER 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	Sharon McNeely, (birthday)	16 th	Jean Cairns (birthday)
2 nd	Scott Harrison (birthday) Pete & Peg Hirschburg (anniversary)	17 th	The Presbytery of New Brunswick
3 rd	Ann Parkinson, Ray Wilhelm (birthday)	18 th	New York City Presbytery
4 th	Erica McBride (birthday)	19 th	Floyd Fellows (birthday) Doug & Becky Parkinson (anniversary)
5 th	Albany Presbytery	20 th	The Presbytery of Newark
6 th	Dr. Dan Neely, John Folwell (birthday)	21 st	The Presbytery of Newton
7 th	Peg Hirschburg, Jack Wyant (birthday)	22 nd	The Presbytery of Northern New England
8 th	Eastern Korean Presbytery	23 rd	The Presbytery of Northern New York
9 th	Presbytery of Elizabeth	24 th	Charles Wiles, Sara Barns (birthday)
10 th	Presbytery of Genesee Valley	25 th	Martha Stickler, Nancy Bray (birthday)
11 th	The Presbytery Geneva	26 th	Bob Herbst (birthday)
12 th	Jean Miller, Dale Watkins (birthday) Tom & Willie Phillips (anniversary)	27 th	Jane Hirsch (birthday)
13 th	Erik Miller, Oliver Manuel (birthday) Bill & Evelyn Stover (anniversary)	28 th	Barry Thornton (birthday)
14 th	The Presbytery of Long Island	29 th	Presbytery of West Jersey
15 th	The Presbytery of Monmouth	30 th	Presbytery of Western New York
		31 st	J. Fred Waltz (birthday)

From the Mission Yearbook of Prayer and Study

God of all creation, teach us to protect and preserve; teach us to love our neighbors as ourselves; teach us humility before all you have created. Teach us to treat our food and the land from which it comes with reverence. In the name of Jesus, who is the true bread of life. Amen.

October 2015

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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First Facts

First Presbyterian Church

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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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235 Broadway