

# The Carbondale Presbyterian

Editor: Linda Brandon web address: <http://www.firstprescdale.org>  
The First Presbyterian Church, 310 S. University Ave., Carbondale IL 62901



Advent Vespers- Nov.-Dec.

Cantata - Dec. 6

Spirit of Christmas Gifts  
Due - Dec. 6

Caroling - Dec. 17

Christmas Flower Orders  
Due - Dec. 7

Daycare Christmas  
Party - Dec. 10

Growing Families Trip  
Dec. 11

MaTT Club Meeting - Dec. 13

Preschool Christmas  
Party - Dec. 18

Pastor Janice's Open House  
Dec. 18

Christmas Joy Offering - Dec. 20

Candlelight Service - Dec. 24

## Church Office Hours

Monday through Thurs-  
day 9:00-11:30 a.m. and  
12:30-4:00 p.m.  
Friday 9:00-Noon

## Phone Extensions:

Janice 101  
Carlyn: 106  
Barb 100  
SI Diaper Bank 110



## Advent Vespers

Our church will host a series of musical Advent Vespers this year. Each service will feature musicians and readings of the season. The services will begin at **5:00 p.m.** to be followed by a short reception in Fellowship Hall. Our scheduled performers are:

**Nov. 29** – Susan Davenport & Kathy Manfredi

**Dec. 6** – SIU Brass Quintet

**Dec. 13** – Visions of Native America: Kathy Hollister,  
Nate Kingery, & Jim Beers

**Dec. 20** – “Stars” of First Presbyterian



## Lighting of the Advent

### Wreath

The Worship Team extends a big thank you to the families lighting the Advent Wreath candles:

**Nov. 29** – Jennifer, Kierra & Kaden Langin,

**Dec. 6** – Kyle, Adrienne and Evangeline Hutson

**Dec. 13** – Aaron Newcomb, Kim Magwire-Newcomb,  
Joey and Clif.

**Dec. 20** – Brett, Megan and Liam Batteau

**Dec. 24** – Peter, Kara, Carly, and Grant Hertzling



*Thursday, December 17 at 6 p.m.*

*meet at the church for our third annual Christmas caroling. Bring friends and neighbors along; singers of all ages and talents (including none!) are welcome.*

*After the singing, we'll gather at the home of Susan and John Corker for treats and fellowship.*

*Anyone who would like a visit by the singers should contact*

*the church office.*



**Pass Our Advent Brochure Along**

Please take time to look through the enclosed Advent Brochure. We hope you will make note of the new worship opportunities this Advent season and join us. After you look through the brochure, why not pass it along to your friends and neighbors? This is a wonderful opportunity to **“share the spirit” with those around you!**



*What  
Child Is  
This?*

**2009 Christmas Joy Offering**

A Presbyterian tradition for almost 70 years, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to provide congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes to help those in need. The receipts from the Christmas Joy Offering are distributed equally to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs and to Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries/Presbyterian Women of the General Assembly Mission Council to support Presbyterian racial ethnic education.



**Order Your**

**Christmas Flowers**

Have you placed your order for Christmas Flowers? Forms are inserted in the bulletins or are available from the church office.

The **deadline** for your orders is  
**Monday, Dec. 7.**

**CANTATA**

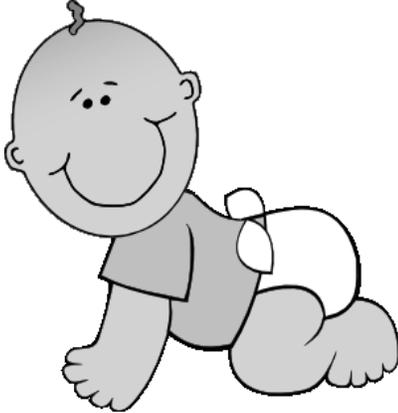
The First Presbyterian choir will be presenting Joseph M. Martin's cantata, "The Mystery and the Majesty" during Sunday morning worship, December 6.



Our traditional Christmas Eve Service of Readings and Carols will begin at **7:00 p.m. on December 24.** We need volunteers either as readers or acolytes. If you would be willing to assist in this beautiful service, please contact Flossie Langin.

Information on our new members in this space next month!

## The Diaper Bank of Southern Illinois



The Diaper Bank is now a reality! We have a newly painted location (the old choir room in the basement), installed shelving, and begun partnering with community agencies. All of this was accomplished with support from the Mission Ministry Team, a grant from the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois, and Michael Eldredge and SIUC's Mu Phi Epsilon music fraternity.

The Diaper Bank serves as a central location for collecting and storing donated diapers, which are then distributed to community agencies to distribute to their clients. Diapers are essential to the well-being of young children and families, yet are not covered by WIC or other public assistance, and so represent a major expense for low-income families.

We will be participating in the Alternative Gift Fair on December 6 at the Unitarian Fellowship, and are listed in the Holiday Charities section of the Southern Illinoisan. The next step is to get the word out to the broader community, and encouraging other people to hold diaper drives in their workplaces, churches, or community groups. If you are interested in helping with the Diaper Bank, contact Jane Swanson ([diaperbanksi@gmail.com](mailto:diaperbanksi@gmail.com)) or visit our website at [www.diaperbanksi.org](http://www.diaperbanksi.org).

## David Kenney's New Address

David Kenney  
Delmar Gardens  
7092 S Outer 364  
APT. 281  
O'Fallon, MO 63368

## An Invitation from Pastor Janice



Stop by for a bit of cheer!  
The church family and friends are invited to stop by for my Open House celebration of the holidays on Friday, December 18, between the hours of 5-9 p.m. (2908 W. Kent)



# MaTT Club

MaTT Club is a place for kids and adults to gather with friends, old and new, at the table with Jesus.

All the children agreed that the one thing that we ALL do on road trips is say, "Are we there yet?"! Other things the children listed as road trip activities are: reading, singing, eating, playing with toys, watching movies and sleeping. Since Jesus was a very young infant on his first road trip (to the temple in Jerusalem) he probably mostly did the eating and sleeping part.

We read about Anna and Simeon who thanked God for the chance to see Baby Jesus at the Temple. We learned that Anna and Simeon both spent many hours praying and serving God. We talked about ways we too can serve God.

The children had the opportunity to tell about the first time they went to church. For many of them it was right here at First Presbyterian. Abby even had a picture of her first time, showing her being held by Neal Foland.

Our Bible verse on November 8 was 'And they named him Jesus' Luke 2:21. Even though we all know each others' names we had fun playing some name games. The favorite was Name Bingo. Each Bingo card had a picture of each of our MaTT Club friends. We also plotted Mary and Joseph and Jesus' trip from Bethlehem to the Temple in Jerusalem on our maps. These maps are in our Journey with Jesus books. We'll be adding to them as we travel with Jesus throughout this MaTT Club year. The books are temporarily in the book case in the Narthex Hall. Ask

the children to show you their books and tell you about what goes on at MaTT Club.

At our November 22 meeting we learned about Jesus' baptism. The children were encouraged to tell about their baptism. Pastor Janice met with us to tell us more about baptism in the Presbyterian church. Those who haven't been baptized yet, know what to look forward to. Afterward we played a game about baptism.



Since the shell is one symbol for baptism, our craft was to make a candle holder using shells. Each child decorated their candle holder in unique ways.

Each child has the opportunity to voice joys and concerns during our closing prayer time. We have prayed for lost pets and family members, the joy of competitions, and the fun at MaTT Club. Each child receives the name of a MaTT Club friend to pray for until the next meeting. Some have had the challenge of praying for a sibling!

Luke Daly celebrated an October birthday. Kierra Langin celebrated a birthday in November.

A big thank you to all our adult helpers: Phyllis Beck, Emily and Marta Davis, Frances Gilman, Kara Hertzling, Jennifer Langin, Serena Loyd and Pastor Janice. Thank you cooks: Beth Forsberg, Jennifer Langin, Katie Langin, and Serena Loyd.

Our next meeting will be Dec 13.

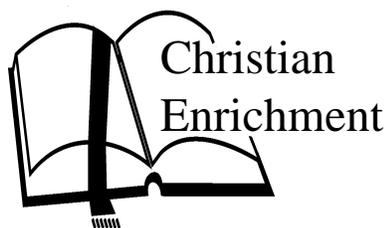
## Youth Group News

**Coffee Hour on Sunday, December 6:** This is the Sunday when church members bring in extra cookies to be delivered to persons who are home bound. The youth will help set up and serve food and drinks during Fellowship Hour. Please be in Fellowship Hall no later than 9:15 am that morning to set up. Youth and their families are also encouraged to bring cookies to contribute both to coffee hour and so that we will have extras to bring to members of the congregation who cannot come to church.

Later that afternoon, we will volunteer again this year at the **Alternative Gift Fair**. The Fair is being held at the Unitarian Fellowship Church at 105 N. Parrish Lane this year from 2-5 pm on Sunday, Dec. 6. We need two youth to volunteer each hour to sell gift certificates for Good Samaritan. You can also do some shopping of your own!

We will join the church in **Christmas caroling on Thursday, December 17**. We will meet at church at 6 pm. When we are done caroling, we will return to church for snacks and cocoa.

Questions? Please contact Cindy Buys or Cara Sronce.



Due to Holiday schedules, there will no Christian Enrichment classes November 29 and December 27, 2009.

Classes will be available for all ages  
December 6, 13, and 20.

Bible Study (parlor) – *Acts of the Apostles*

Faith Dialogues (chapel)– *Reflections on Seasonal Hymns*

Gateways (opening in 140) – *Advent Happenings*



Rev. Deborah Troester has been named the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) Liaison Person for the Central African Republic (CAR). The CAR is about the size of Texas and has a population of 4.4 million. ELCA has 450 Congregations in the CAR with 71 Pastors, 44 Evangelists and 250 Trained Catechists. Rev. Troester received her Master of Divinity Degree from the, Seminario Evangelico de Puerto Rico in San Juan in 2002. She also holds a Master of Arts from Penn. State and a Bachelor of Arts from SIU. In addition to her position as Liaison Person she is teaching at the ELCA Seminary in CAR. She has been serving ELCA in Africa since 2006.



We had a very good turn out for the Thanksgiving Dinner we held on Tuesday, November 17 at 5:30 p.m. Thank you for coming.

On Thursday, December 10 at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall we will be having our Christmas party and Dinner. We will have a special guest coming to this party.

The Center will be closed from December 24 through January 3, see you on Monday, January 4, 2010.

The Daycare staff and children wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



In November the Preschool classes worked on Thanksgiving projects. The Frogs made a big Thanksgiving picture for the wall wishing all the parents Happy Thanksgiving! They also were able to glitter a jingle bell for their letter of the week which was "J", imagine that!

The Tadpoles decorated their turkeys at home and returned them to school. The turkeys look great and are hanging in the classroom. The Polliwogs have also been doing a few small Thanksgiving projects.

The Frogs and Tadpoles are working on the Christmas Program. It will be held Friday, Dec. 18 at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There will be punch and cookies and a chance to visit with all who attend. The program will start at 10 a.m. with singing by the Frogs and Tadpoles and then everyone will have cookies and punch. The program is open to all who would like to attend.

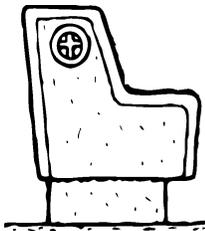
The Preschool Board and Staff wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!



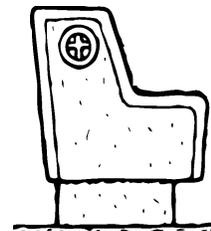
As of publishing time for the Newsletter we have received \$213,110 in Pledges leaving us \$38,733 to go in order to reach our goal. We are posting the latest figures as they become available on the Stewardship Bulletin Board in the Narthex. Stewardship will have their regular monthly meeting on December 1 and will reconcile the funds made available from the pledges and other sources with the 2010 Budget Requests and present same to Session at the December 8 Session Meeting. If you haven't made a pledge and still desire to do so please try to turn it in by December 1. Pledges after that date will be appreciated but may not be reflected in the 2010

Budget figures which could result in Stewardship having to make cuts which might otherwise have been avoided. We remain prayerful that the goal will be reached and that cuts will not be necessary.

## PEW CLEANING

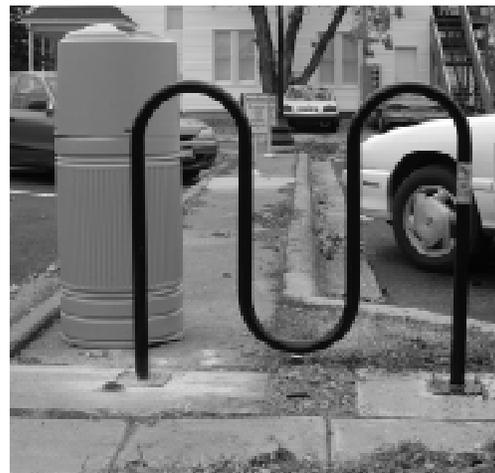


Stanley Steamer came November 2 to clean all of the pew seats and backs with two crews and two steam/vacuum trucks. There are 898 lineal feet of backs and seats and it took the two crews a half day to clean all of them. The cost was approximately \$800. We request that in the future you refrain from drinking coffee in the Sanctuary pews as most of the really bad stains were spilled coffee and it doesn't come out easily. In the future we hope to clean the pews every other year.



## BIKE RACK

We have a five bicycle rack up and in working order This will allow bicycle riders to chain their bike up outside so they won't have to bring them inside to secure them. We also call your attention to the two new trash receptacles which have replaced the old trash cans out on the parking lot.



Stewardship is investigating the possibility of purchasing our electrical power from a company other than Ameren. The deregulation law allows us to do this and there is a possibility of saving a thousand or more dollars a year by doing this. There are twelve companies who are now selling electricity to business and three to residences however Ameren still will deliver the power to the consumer. Watch for later editions of the news letter to find out more about this as we try to uncover the "mysteries" of the electrical power business.



## Spirit of Christmas

All the names assigned to us by the Interfaith Council Spirit of Christmas Project have been chosen by our members and friends.

The gifts go to residents of the Good Samaritan House, residents in three area nursing homes, children of migrant workers, group home residents, children receiving services from Archway and other programs.

It is important that you wrap your gift and put it into the plastic bag that was provided to you. The pink coded slip should be attached to the bag with a small piece of tape over of the "contents" portion of the bag. All gifts for the same recipients should be put into the same bag.. The gifts should be brought to the church on or before Sunday, December 6.



## Growing Families in Fellowship (GFF)

GFF will hold its next event on Friday, December 11. We will meet in the church parking lot at 6:30 pm and caravan to the DuQuoin State Fairgrounds to see the Holiday Lights Fair. Admission is \$5.00 per car, but the Small Groups ministry will help cover expenses. The children will be able to see Santa and ride an indoor train in the Expo Hall, where refreshments will also be available. We will wrap up around 8:00 p.m. and return to Carbondale by 8:30. For more information contact Mary Louise Cashel (457-6892) or Serena Loyd ([serena@siu.edu](mailto:serena@siu.edu)).



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## Congregational Meeting



January 24  
after worship  
service

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## The Dining Group

The group met on November 19 at Stone Creek's Club House and Restaurant with 22 individuals enjoying the evening. The Hippensteel's were the host. However Karen had gone to the Presbytery Meetig with Rev. Janice in Decatur and was unable to get back in time so Tom had to hold down the fort by himself. He did a great job. This was the last dinner this year for the Group but mark your calendars for our next meeting January 21, 2010 at Hunan hosted by Don and Betty Darling.



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Carbondale, Illinois**

310 South University Ave., Carbondale, IL 62901

**Phone:** 618-549-2148    **Fax:** 618-549-6423

**Email:** fpcdaleoffice@onecliq.net (church office)  
fpcdalepastor@onecliq.net (pastor's office)

**Web Address:** <http://www.firstprescdale.org>

**Pastor: Janice C. West**

**Home Phone:** 618-549-9391

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**December 2009**



About a decade ago "Student Spirit Sacks" originated. College students affiliated with our Church enjoy treats given to them during exam week.

Rev. C.E.F. Howe, now 98 years old, served as our pastor from December 1952 to October 1966.