



The Carbondale Presbyterian

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

Faith Dialogs - Jan. 3, 10 & 17

MaTT Club - Jan. 10

Youth See SIU Women Play BB
Jan. 16

Tie Sunday - Jan. 17

Presbyterian Women Meet
Jan. 19

Restaurant Group Meets - Jan. 21

Congregational Meeting-
Jan. 24

Youth Meet to Plan Souper
Bowl - Jan. 31

Daycare International
Meal - Feb. 5



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

Its time for the second Annual "Wear a Tie to Church" Sunday. It is acknowledged that our church members have a wide variety of wardrobe preferences which fortunately are easily assimilated so everyone feels comfortable in their individual dress choices.

To demonstrate this condition we are asking all males on Sunday, January 17, to wear the following combination which bridges various wardrobe styles:

" Blue Levis (or casual pants) with a Shirt (white or colored/ patterned) & a TIE (or lariat)

Rob Jensen and Tom Hippensteel will be doing some sort of judging/write up depending upon what shows up.

It's all about having fun while learning more about your fellow worshipers.

In sure and certain hope. . .

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ. . .

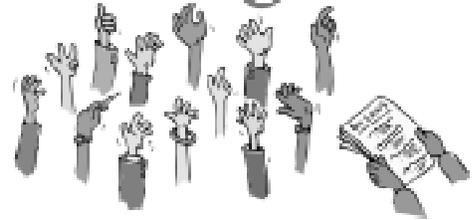
The church family extends sympathy to the family and friends of

Roger E. Beyler

May 20, 1922 – December 12, 2009

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. John 11:25-26

Congregational Meeting



Sign up NOW for the January 24 congregational luncheon! Following the annual meeting of the congregation, we'll meet in Fellowship Hall to share a meal. Because we are paying for each plate, it's essential that you indicate your intention to attend on the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

The menu includes a choice of chicken, stuffed pork chop, or vegetarian entrée, along with a variety of vegetables, dessert, and drink. Please help us by signing up soon!

Worship

Just as Janice takes vacation after the Advent season each year, Worship Ministry needs a breather after a busy Advent. However, time marches on and it's time to plan for late winter and spring.

While Janice is on vacation, Rev. Sue Bailey will fill the pulpit on Sunday, January 3.

The second Sunday in January is Baptism of the Lord day. In addition to serving Communion that day we will celebrate the infant baptism of Lillianne Loyd. Our annual Congregational Meeting will take place on January 24. For more about that see the Fellowship Ministry.

Rev. Kim Magwire will fill the pulpit on January 31 when Janice is gone for Continuing Education.

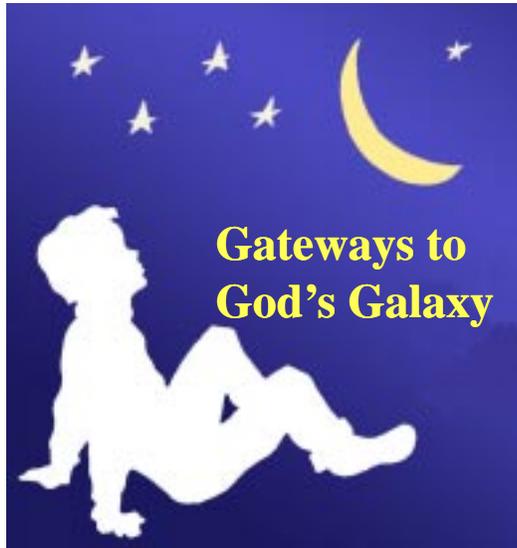
February 14 is Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday and communion will be served. Ash Wednesday will be the following Wednesday, February 17. Read more about our Ash Wednesday service in the February newsletter. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent.

Worship Ministry would like to thank all those who participated in the Sunday evening Advent Vespers. Many folks shared their musical talent. Thank you also to those who provided refreshments after each service.

We also thank the 24 volunteers who helped at the Christmas Eve service, and the families who lit the Advent Wreath candles. Of course we appreciate the help of those on the regular worship volunteer lists. Everyone working together enables us to have a meaningful service of worship.

The list of volunteers preparing Communion continues to grow. This means that each individual/team will only need to do this once a year. Thank you all who have agreed to serve in this important ministry. Thank you Carolyn and John Hooker for preparing the Lord's Table in January and the Nalley family for taking a turn in February. There is still room for more help. If you are willing to set up communion please let us know.

And lastly we want to thank Tom and Karen Hippensteel for providing our Communion wine. This is the results of their bountiful harvest from their own vineyard and a labor of love.



Gateways to God's Galaxy is the Sunday morning Christian education program for children, ages 3 - 11. They all meet together in room 140 after worship (about 10:30) for snacks and a story. Then they head off for art, computers, games, a movie, cooking, or Bible study. They return to room 140 after their respective activities for singing and prayers. In January, this Gateways group will focus on the challenge Jesus and his disciples had of feeding 5000 people with only 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread.

The Children's Choir



Thank you, Sarah Besse, for preparing this group of children to sing during the worship service. It was a delight to hear their lovely voices during Advent, and to have them up in front of all of us to see. Thank you, too, to the parents who brought them to practice each week. And an especially big THANK YOU to these five who touched our hearts.

Kids



The tree in Fellowship Hall was decorated by the children, as one of their Kids In Christ activities. They also made cards to go with the cookies that went to our at-home members. This group meets about once a month for a special event or activity. They usually meet on a Saturday. Beth Forsberg contacts the families of children between the ages of 3 and 11. After the activity planned for the day, Beth and the children have lunch together (usually pizza).

In Christ



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

Our December meeting was devoted to fun and community service.

We started the evening with some Christmas themed games. During *Hot Candy Cane*, if you got caught with the candy cane when the music stopped you had to sing *Jingle Bells* or "make" a snow angel, or tell what you would give Jesus for his birthday. *Going to the Manger*, required the kids to think of things they would take to visit baby Jesus at the manger. We took everything from gold to kangaroos to people. *Ornament Race* showed who our budding soccer stars are!

Our community service project for December was making favors for the church carolers to take to the homes they sang at. We made wreaths, two kinds of snowmen, reindeer, and more. The children each got to make something to keep for themselves after making things for others. The five children outdid themselves creating 20 items to share!

This was the only time we met in December. Our next meeting will be on January 10. We'll be talking about a time when Jesus was tempted and learn some ways to handle temptations we may face.

Each child had the opportunity to voice joys and concerns during our closing prayer time. Each child received the name of a MaTT Club friend to pray for until the next meeting. Parents remind their child that just as they are praying for a MaTT Club friend, someone else is praying for them.

A big thank you to all our helpers: Emily Davis, Marta Davis, Kara Hertzling, Jennifer Langin, Katie Langin, and Serena Loyd.

Thank you Kara Hertzling for providing our supper and a bag of treats for each child.

Last month Allison Forsberg was accidentally omitted from the thank you list. Thanks Allison for your help.



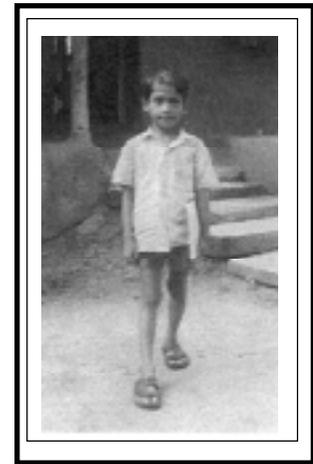
Calling all Youth!

On Saturday, January 16, we will attend the SIU Women's basketball game at the Arena from 2-4 pm. Please RSVP to Cindy Buys so she knows how many tickets will be needed.

Sunday, January 31, we will meet in Fellowship Hall at church from 4:30-6:30 pm to plan for Souper Bowl Sunday on Feb. 7. We will make and eat dinner together.

News About Jitendra.

Another letter has been received about Jitendra. Jitendra lives with his family in India. The Gateways children support him through Child International. Jitendra will be 10 years old March 3, 2010. He sings well, and received an award for singing. The money sent by our church has been used by Jitendra and his family to buy seeds and to improve their garden. School supplies were purchased after the flood in India, as well as replacing clothing that was lost in the flood. All of the offering that the Gateways children bring is donated to that program. Others may make donations as well. Put them in the offering plate marked for Jitendra, or leave them in the church office. The Youth Class plans to reach out to our child in India, by writing to him.



As we resume Faith Dialogs for 2010 we are looking forward to great pics and presenters. Please join us at 10:45 am on Sundays. Bring your coffee with you and enjoy the discussion.

January 3, will open with a presentation of plans for renovations currently in progress for the parlor and/or fellowship hall. Do you have suggestions for this well used space? Come learn and share with Bill Schwegman what is being done.



On January 10, John Baker will lead the conversation concerning the "Responsibilities of Citizenship". Our nation and our state can definitely benefit from all of us doing our part.

January 17 we will all have a chance to say what books we have read that have influenced our spiritual growth or deepened our faith. Perhaps a list of recommended reading from Faith Dialogs will be the result of this class.

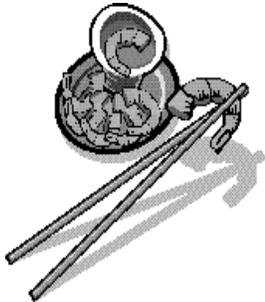
There will be a church meeting and luncheon January 24, so no Christian Enrichment classes are scheduled.

We will resume Faith Dialogs class on January 31 with a group discussion of what movies you have seen that caused you to grow in faith.



Additional volunteers are needed for coffee hosts. Those who volunteer will be asked to serve coffee following worship twice each year. If the date you're assigned doesn't fit your schedule, you can trade with others. Individuals may volunteer and will be assigned a partner. Contact Brenda Gilbert to volunteer at 549-3728, or notify the church office.

Coffee Hosts Needed



The Restaurant Group will meet at Hunan's on East Main St. at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, January 21. Please call Don and Betty Darling to tell them you will be there. Phone: 549-1931 or email: ding1030@msn.com



On December 17, nearly two dozen of us gathered for caroling. We were warmly received by those we visited. Thanks to all the singers and especially to the Corkers for opening their home afterwards for cookies and hot cocoa.

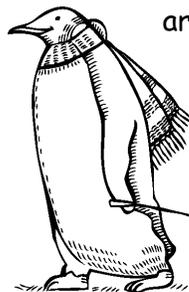
Missing!

Tablecloths to clothe the tables in Fellowship Hall have been reported as missing. Help our naked tables! We have many tables but few tablecloths available for special events. Specifically, the long tables are missing their ivory coverings. Did you take them home to wash and forget to bring them back? If so then this is an BBOT (Bring Back Our Tablecloths) alert especially for you.

We hope that everyone had a great and safe holiday. During January, it looks as if it will be a little quieter here in the Daycare than it was the last couple of months.

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The week of February 1-5 we will be talking about Friends around the World. Friday, February 5 we will have our annual international meal with family and friends. If you would like to come and bring a covered dish that represents your heritage, we would welcome your participation in this activity. If anyone has visited in a different country, we invite you to speak with Di (529-1551) and arrange a time during that week to come and share your experiences with the children. We hope several folks will be able to come in and share with us.





The Diaper Bank of Southern Illinois

December has been a busy month for the Diaper Bank. We received over \$200 in contributions at the Alternative Gift Fair, had two articles in the Southern Illinoisan, and received a donation of 1350 diapers from Kellyn Daly's Girl Scout troop. Most importantly, the Diaper Bank has gained considerable visibility through all of these activities, which has resulted in other individuals and groups donating money to purchase diapers. We also have been contacted by individuals and agencies who need diapers – and so we continue to move ahead into the new year, increasingly aware of the needs in our community.

Now that the Diaper Bank is “up and running,” here are three concrete ways that you can help:

- * Continue to donate diapers, pull-ups, and diaper wipes.
- * Watch for coupons for diapers in the newspaper and magazines – clip and bring to the church office.
- * Make monetary contributions to the Diaper Bank – we'll do the shopping for you! Write checks to First Presbyterian, with “Diaper Bank” in the memo line, and the contribution will be added to your giving statement.

Thanks for all of the moral and financial support from First Presbyterian! For more information, contact Jane Swanson (diaperbanksi@gmail.com) or visit the website at www.diaperbanksi.org.



Thanks to your Generous Pledges, Session was able to approve the 2010 Balanced Church Budget at the December meeting. The approved Total Budget is \$290,844 the same as was presented on Nov. 1 at our kick off meeting in Fellowship Hall. Rev. West informed Session that we are the only Church in the S.E. Illinois Presbytery that has been able to accomplish this goal.

Session authorized the Stewardship Ministry to undertake the refurbishment of the Church Parlor utilizing the funds left over from the New Office Project and funds remaining in the Stewardship portion of the Budget at the end of 2009. The over all concept is to paint the walls and ceiling, install new carpeting and obtain new furniture. The Library will be moved out to the area in front of the old office to form a new “Book Nook” which will be much more accessible to all. We have re- carpeted the “Book Nook” with carpet left over from the office project. Hopefully this can all be accomplished early 2010.

Vandalism escalates - in the early morning hours of December 16 some person or persons unknown pried up a large flagstone stepping stone out of the ground under the new window shield even before the shield was finished and broke out the shield and damaged the stained glass and then dropped the stone on the gas regulator under the window causing a major gas leak which was sucked into the Church heating system causing the Church and School to be evacuated. The Police, Fire and Ameren were called in along with our repairman to cope with the problem. Alan Bennett drove to St. Louis and obtained a new gas regulator in order to restore gas service and heat to the Church. The Police are investigating.

Thank you letter from Good Samaritan Ministries



November 16, 2009

Dear Students,

Thank you for the hats which you made and donated to Good Samaritan Ministries. We appreciated the mittens and scarves we also received. These will all be used in the cold weather that is coming.

Yours,

Mary Campbell, Volunteer Coordinator



**Presbyterian
Women**

Presbyterian Women will be meeting Tuesday, January 19, at 1:00 p.m. Bette Baggett is the hostess and Joan Dickens will be presenting the lesson.

Ellis and Tim Mitchell have finished the South Stained Glass Window Shield as a Christmas present to the Church. Please be sure to thank Ellis and Tim for this fine gift.

OOPS! A lame lamb is awkward at best.

Hymn: "Hallelujah! Praise the Lame"

This appeared in some other
newsletter, not ours.

First Presbyterian Church
Carbondale, Illinois

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Pastor: Janice C. West

Home Phone: 618-549-9391

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January 2010



2006 at the Annual Meeting, our new Mission Statement is adopted.

January 4, 1870, a Beecher No. 3 Soft Coal Furnace installed in first House of Worship on South Street (now W. Monroe). Cost was \$198.00.