



The Carbondale Presbyterian

Editor: Linda Brandon web address: <http://www.firstprescdale.org>
The First Presbyterian Church, 310 S. University Ave., Carbondale IL 62901
contact us at: firstpresnews@gmail.com

The call for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of First Presbyterian Church

Epiphany Event - Jan. 3

MaTT Club Meetings Jan. 3 & 17

Pizza & Movie Night - Jan. 12

Dinner Group - Jan. 21

Membership Class - Jan. 17

Annual Congregational
Meeting - Jan. 24

Church Office Hours

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

Phone Extensions:

Janice 101
Laurie: 102
Carlyn: 106
Barb 100
SI Diaper Bank 110

is Sunday, January 24, 2016,
immediately following morning
worship.

This meeting is for the purpose of
hearing and acting on the reports
of the life and ministry of the con-
gregation, acting on the terms of
call for the Pastor, and any other
business properly brought before
the meeting.

Flossie Langin, Clerk of Session

Janice C. West, Moderator

Pastor's Page

The word was **Rest**. Laurie had just reached into the bag, moments before I walked into the Epiphany worship service and pulled out the little velum star that simply read **Rest**.

I chuckled to myself. Ok, I chortled to myself.

"Rest? Yeah, right. Advent and Christmas may be over, but January holds the Annual Meeting, and then I go off for the Annual Educational Event, schedule in some time to get a head cold, and then Lent will begin – which we all know just means a fevered pitch towards Easter. Rest? Yeah, right!"

Then I went on to lead the Epiphany worship service.

What was your word? What was the word you were given nearly a year ago, and what was your response to that simple word? Was it shock? Laughter? Sadness? Confusion? Joy? Humor? All the above? Better yet, how did you live with your word during the year? Did you place it somewhere it would give you a daily reminder, or did it slip from your brain as easily as it was given? Did you wrestle with living into it, living with it, or did it come easily and welcomed into your life?

Rest, while humorous at first, was a delight to me all throughout the year. Thinking of the word brought a smile to my face – in part because of the sheer audacity of me finding time to actually rest, but then also because I recalled the story of Creation and how, on the seventh day, the Creator rested. And that is not just a story, but an example for us all. . .resting, taking care, finding center, renewing body, mind, and spirit – walking in the Garden with God. I was nice to have the word as a reminder all throughout the year – to remind myself that I don't need a reminder word to rest. As God's beloved creation, that is part of my God-given DNA. . .and my not engaging it, is what is so wrong.

On January 3, 2016, once again there will be Star Words to be given out at worship. Don't worry if you won't be in worship on that Sunday, you can email Laurie at laurie@firstprescdale.org and she will select a word for you. Think about your first response to the word, but do not let that trip you up or hold you back. Embrace your word. Invite your word into your life for 2016 and see where it might take you, for we are the ones who follow the Bright and Morning Star. . .

Pastor Janice

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

Naomi Manering

June 23, 1912 – December 18 , 2015

*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

Plan to attend the Annual Meeting Potluck on Sunday, January 24 (the fourth Sunday in January). We will hold the potluck in Fellowship Hall following the meeting. Please bring a dish to share. The Fellowship Committee will provide the beverages. Volunteers will be needed for set up and clean up. Please contact Beth Forsberg or Anne Barrett with questions. Hope to see you there!

****PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL NOT BE A FIFTH SUNDAY POTLUCK IN JANUARY. ****



Thinking about becoming a member?



The Membership Ministry is hosting a New Member Discovery Class **Sunday, January 17, 2016**, at 12:00 noon in the conference room. Light snacks will be served, and child care will be available. Pastor Janice and other church leaders will be there to talk with you about what it means to be a member of First Presbyterian Church, in particular, and about the Presbyterian Church USA, in general. If you're interested in joining the discussion, please contact Tracy Prosser (618-893-2965 or prosser4fpc@gmail.com). If this isn't a good date for you, but you're still interested in learning more about membership, please let us know.

Sunday Morning Schedule



Everyone is encouraged to join us for Faith Development classes on Sunday morning. Classes are available for all ages on the following schedule:

Kindergarten - 5th graders - will begin worship with their families until the Children's Sermon. After the Children's Sermon, they will be dismissed to Children's Worship, a time for them to learn and grow together. They will rejoin their families before the end of the worship service.

Youth (grades 6 - 12) will have Sunday School following worship in the Youth Room. In January, the Youth class will be led by Brenda Gilbert and will be looking at *Understanding the Bible*.

Faith Dialogues (for adults) will meet in the Chapel following worship. In January, we will be learning more about ecumenical and interfaith relations.

Sunday Morning Bible Study (for adults) will meet in the Parlor, also following worship.

There will be no Faith Development classes on January 3, due to the Epiphany celebration, and January 24, due to the Annual Meeting.

EPIPHANY EVENT

Join us after worship on January 3 for our second annual Epiphany Event. We will be making gifts to give to those in need in our community and reflecting on following the star in many ways. All ages are encouraged to participate in this time of learning and mission.

Youth Trip to Heifer Ranch

The Mission and Faith Development Ministries are planning a youth mission trip to Heifer Ranch June 15 - 19, 2016. All middle school and high school youth are invited to go on this trip and should have received information already. If you have not, please contact Laurie Fields. A reminder to all youth who wish to participate: \$50 deposits are due on January 1. More information about planning meetings and fundraising will be sent to youth in early January. Questions? Talk to Laurie Fields or Ken Simpson.

Laurie's Hours for January

Laurie will be in the office on Mondays and Thursdays in January and on Sundays January 3, 10, 24 and 31. If you need to talk to her, please stop by on a Monday or Thursday, call her at 618-751-1419, or e-mail her at: laurie@firstprescdale.org





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

MaTT Club had a "Knock Your Socks Off!" Christmas meeting on December 6. Perhaps it should have been called a 'knock your shoes off' because we kept our socks on. The children wore their wildest looking socks and we played in our sock feet the whole evening. The children also brought new socks to donate to the local schools. We collected 50 pairs! Thanks to all the parents who donated.

In keeping with our socks/stocking theme we started the evening with a game called Jingle Bell Stocking. The teams scooped up jingle bells of all sizes, in a spoon, and raced to fill their stocking. The children then tossed bean bag socks into a gift box. Sound easy? Not so much when you have to toss the sock backwards over your head. Another game consisted of items hidden, one each, in socks. The children felt the sock and tried to guess what was inside. We ended game time with Four Corners. While the music played the children roamed the playing area. When the music stopped they went to the corner of their choosing; the Holy Family, the three Wisemen, a stocking or a snowflake. When everyone was in a corner, Elf Carly or Elf Kierra pulled, from the hat, the chosen corner. The kids in that corner were then asked to "do" something. It might be sing Away in a Manger, recite the first verses of The Night Before Christmas, make snow angels on the floor or something else to fit the holiday theme. The kids enjoyed this game so much I think we'll be playing it again!



Jobi's grandmother provided a giant stocking shaped cookie for each child after supper. Be sure to check out the pictures on the bulletin board.

Kara provided materials for each child to decorate their own stocking to take home. Our group showed their creative skills yet again. Kara also gifted each child with a sack of goodies.

A big thank you to the many who helped make this meeting a success: Bob Luebbers for coming and taking pictures which included a long angle shot of all of our feet in our wild socks, Jennifer for taking the other pictures and helping in general, Kara for craft time, Carly and Kierra, Janice McCann and Grandma Pat for providing supper (and the awesome cookies), and Ken Simpson for delivering the socks.



Be sure to check out all the photos on our bulletin board.

Our next meeting will be January 3, 2016. Our focus will be Lot's wife: *Look forward and obey God.*

Pictures by Jennifer Langin and Bob Luebbers



Photos by Laurie Fields



December 5, our church was well represented in the Carbondale Lights Fantastic parade. Many of our children and youth dressed up as characters from the Nativity story and rode on the float. Many thanks go to all those who helped with the float this year, especially Peter Hertzog, who coordinated the assembly and disassembly of the float, and Kitty Trescott, who recruited riders and assigned costumes.

Mission Ministry

Famine/Starvation in Malawi.

Our church has recently focused on Malawi, having a major fund-raiser and three volunteers who traveled there to help Marion Medical Mission with well installation in the area. In addition to their ongoing need for clean drinking water they have another major need: food. Recently, central Malawi has experienced severe drought that destroyed much of the maize (similar to corn) that forms the basis for their diets. Therefore, the people are experiencing severe famine; many individuals are starving. We ask that you consider helping to feed these hungry people by writing a check to First Presbyterian (put "Malawi Hunger" in the memo line, or sending a check to Marion Medical Mission (write "Malawi Hunger" in the memo line...their address is: Marion Medical Mission, 1412 Shawnee Dr., Marion, IL 62959). One family can be fed for a an entire month for \$15.



Photo by Alisa Simpson

Marion Medical Mission Shallow Wells 2015 AND 2016



Before

The most recent count on the number of wells completed in 2015 is 2,678. Any member of our church who is interested in volunteering to participate in the program in 2016 should contact Mission Ministry (Ken Simpson, John Jarvis, Jane Swanson, Cindy Buys, Imogene Beckemeyer) as soon as possible.

After



Photos by Alisa Simpson

Mitten Tree

The 'mitten tree' was set up in the Narthex to collect clothing for local children in need. This year the clothing was distributed the week of Dec. 13 to the following organizations that serve children: Unity Point School, Thomas School, Parrish School, and Good Samaritan Ministries. Thanks to all who contributed to this. Your generosity makes a difference in the lives of others.



Photo by Ken Simpson

Spirit of Christmas

Many thanks to all who participated, helped and supported this annual local effort to provide gifts to those in need. Because of the economic challenges faced by many we had more names than last year. Nonetheless, all of these names were taken and the gifts were brought to church on Dec. 6 for distribution. The Mission Ministry specifically wishes to thank Nancy Pfaff and Kathryn Heins for coordinating the Spirit of Christmas this year. We also wish to express our deep appreciation to Nancy Pfaff and Betty Baggett for their dedication to Spirit of Christmas over many years.



Happy New Year from Presbyterian Preschool



Inclement Weather

Oh, The Weather Outside is Frightful

...or so goes the song! One can only imagine for what "old man winter" will throw at us the next couple of months, especially since our winter has been so nice thus far! Let's hope it is just a slowball and not a snowball!

While we love to have everyone with us on Sunday mornings as we worship together, if you are unsure

about navigating the roads and sidewalks, please stay home. We would rather miss you in worship than have to visit you in the hospital with a broken hip. If you are unsure about things, check with the WSIL-TV3 (ABC) weather closing information (both online and on the TV "crawl"). Information about closings will be posted there. We also will post information about closings on our Facebook page, attempt to send an all church e-mail alert, and change the answering machine message. Your deacon shepherd may even try to call you. You can also call Pastor Janice on her cell phone (618-521-3858) if you have concerns.

Once you get to the church, the steps to the covered drive-through (with a hand rail!) are often easier to navigate than the slope. The "trash" can by the Fellowship Hall doors has Ice Melt in it, and you are invited to use that as needed to make the way easier for those coming in after you!

Be smart out there this winter. . .and be safe. . .and help keep others safe, too!



Pizza & Movie Night – January 15, 2016 – 6:00 pm, in Fellowship Hall. Pizza will be hot and ready, plus fruit, salad, cookies, and more. The flick has not been determined yet, but it is always something special and unique. Just talk to Bart or Kitty Trescott to see which one has been selected for January, Let them know you will be there. Call [618-203-1807](tel:618-203-1807) or send an email: trescott@midwest.net.

DINNER GROUP

Due to all of the things going on the month of December the Dinner Group did not meet.

The January meeting will be at Hunan's on January 21, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. with Mary Mantovani as our hostess. Check the January 10 & 17 church Bulletins for further information about the dinner.

Hope you had a Merry Christmas and wishing you Happy New Year with a reminder not to forget those who are less fortunate.



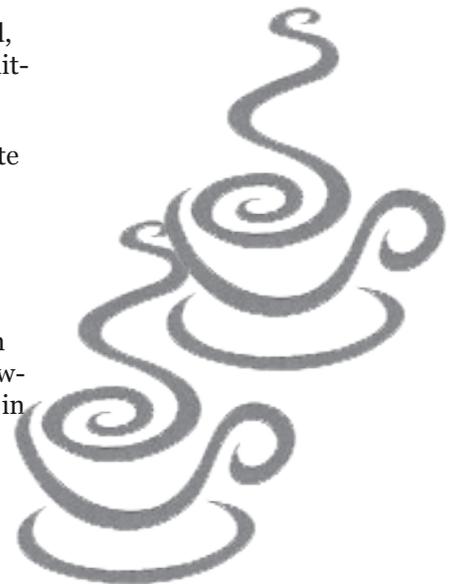
Fellowship Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to host Fellowship/Coffee Hour the first quarter of 2016. The Fellowship Committee has had trouble finding volunteers. Phone calls have been made, sign up sheets have been strategically placed, emails have gone out and face-to-face begging has occurred! If the committee can't find volunteers, there will be no Fellowship/Coffee Hour!

Just so you know, Fellowship Hour doesn't have to be a gourmet, elaborate event. The only thing that NEEDS to be done is brewing coffee from the provided coffee supply. If you feel like providing food, that's fine, if not, that's fine, too. Fellowship Hour can be as simple or as elaborate as YOU feel comfortable.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Beth Forsberg. When you have decided on a date please contact our Church secretary, Barb Stewart, by email or by a call. That way, she can be sure to include your name in the Sunday bulletin the week you volunteer to host.

There are plenty of Sundays up for grabs. Grab your's today!



Financial Report November 2015 91.66.% of the year completed

Line	Income	Budget	Percent
Pledges	\$ 205,709.87	\$ 215,263.00	96%
Nonpledge Offerings	\$ 12,975.00	\$ 12,000.00	108%
Per Capita	\$ 2,680.00	\$ 1,500.00	179%
Miscellaneous	\$ 22,745.02	\$ 68,595.46	33%
Totals	\$ 244,109.89	\$ 297,358.46	82%

Line	Expenditures	Budget	Percent
Mission	\$ 15,999.35	\$ 21,950.00	73%
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 101,764.24	\$ 113,737.76	89%
Staff	\$ 59,410.75	\$ 66,535.70	89%
Christian Ed.	\$ 4,629.94	\$ 9,850.00	47%
Worship & Music	\$ 1,856.68	\$ 5,125.00	36%
Comm/Administration	\$ 18,980.85	\$ 22,110.00	86%
Property/Capital	\$ 48,520.03	\$ 54,000.00	90%
Christian Nurture	\$ 2,080.14	\$ 4,050.00	51%
Total	\$ 253,241.98	\$ 297,358.46	85%
	\$ (9,132.09)		

OOPS!

Help us honor academic excellence!

This appeared in some other church publication,
not one of ours.

JANUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Fellowship		4:30pm - Personnel 7pm - Overtone Anon			5:30pm - FOB	9:30am - KISS 12pm - Debtors Annon
9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Fellowship 11am - Sunday School 12pm - Yarning Group 4pm - MATT Club		7pm - Overtone Anon	8pm - Mission Ministry 8:30pm - Choir Rehearsal		6:30pm - FOB	9:30am - KISS 12pm - Debtors Annon
9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Fellowship 11am - Sunday School		7pm - Overtone Anon 7pm - Session	8:30pm - Worship Ministry 8:30pm - Choir Rehearsal		5:30pm - FOB 6pm - Movie Group	9:30am - KISS 12pm - Debtors Annon
9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Fellowship 11am - Sunday School 12pm - Discovery Class 4pm - MATT Club		1pm - Presby Women 6:30pm - Faith Day 7pm - Overtone Anon	Newsletter Deadline 9pm - Daycare Board 8:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	8:30pm - Dinner Grp 8:30pm - GS Ldr Mtg	6:30pm - FOB	9:30am - KISS 12pm - Debtors Annon
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Annual Meeting 10:45am - Fellowship		4:30pm - Personnel 6pm - Presby Men 6:30pm - Fellowship Min 8:30pm - Interfaith Conf 7pm - Overtone Anon	8:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	7pm - Small Groups	5:30pm - FOB	9:30am - KISS 12pm - Debtors Annon
9:30am - Worship 11am - Sunday School	Last 3	7pm - Overtone Anon	8:30pm - Choir Rehearsal		5:30pm - FOB	9:30am - KISS 12pm - Debtors Annon

**First Presbyterian Church
Carbondale, Illinois**

310 South University Ave., Carbondale, IL 62901

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

Email: office@firstprescdale.org (church office)
pastor@firstprescdale.org (pastor's office)

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

Pastor: Janice C. West

Home Phone: 618-549-9391

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JANUARY 2016



On January 4, 1870, a “Beecher No. 3 Soft Coal Furnace was purchased for the Monroe Street First Presbyterian Church building. The cost was recorded in our 100 year history booklet as \$198.00. The church building, in which it was installed, was completed in 1859 at a cost of \$3,642.50. Land for the church was donated by Daniel Harmon Brush.