



The Carbondale Presbyterian

Editor: Lisa C. Hollabaugh (firstpresnews@gmail.com) / www.firstpresdale.org
First Presbyterian Church / 310 S. University Ave. / Carbondale, IL 62901 / (618) 549-2148
Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale IL / YouTube: @firstpresdale
More Light Presbyterians LGBTQIA+-affirming www.mlp.org
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregation www.pcusa.org

Sunday Worship 10:00 am
w/Childcare & Children's Church School
Zoom Link 824 8455 3329
Email Zoom prayer joys & concerns to
sanctuaryimac@firstpresdale.org
Followed by **Coffee Fellowship**

Bible Study with Bill & J.P.
Wednesdays 10:00 am Lounge

Choir Rehearsal Wednesdays 6 pm

First Sunday collection March 1

Choir performs March 1 & 29

**Spring Forward to
Daylight Savings Time** March 8

Stated Session Meeting
March 10 7:00 pm

Free Laundry Day March 11
10:00 am-2:00 pm Laundry World

**Church Women United
World Day of Prayer Observance**
March 13 10:30 am Fellowship Hall

Presbyterian Women
March 17 1:00 pm

Dinner Group March 19 5:30 pm
Giant City Lodge, Makanda

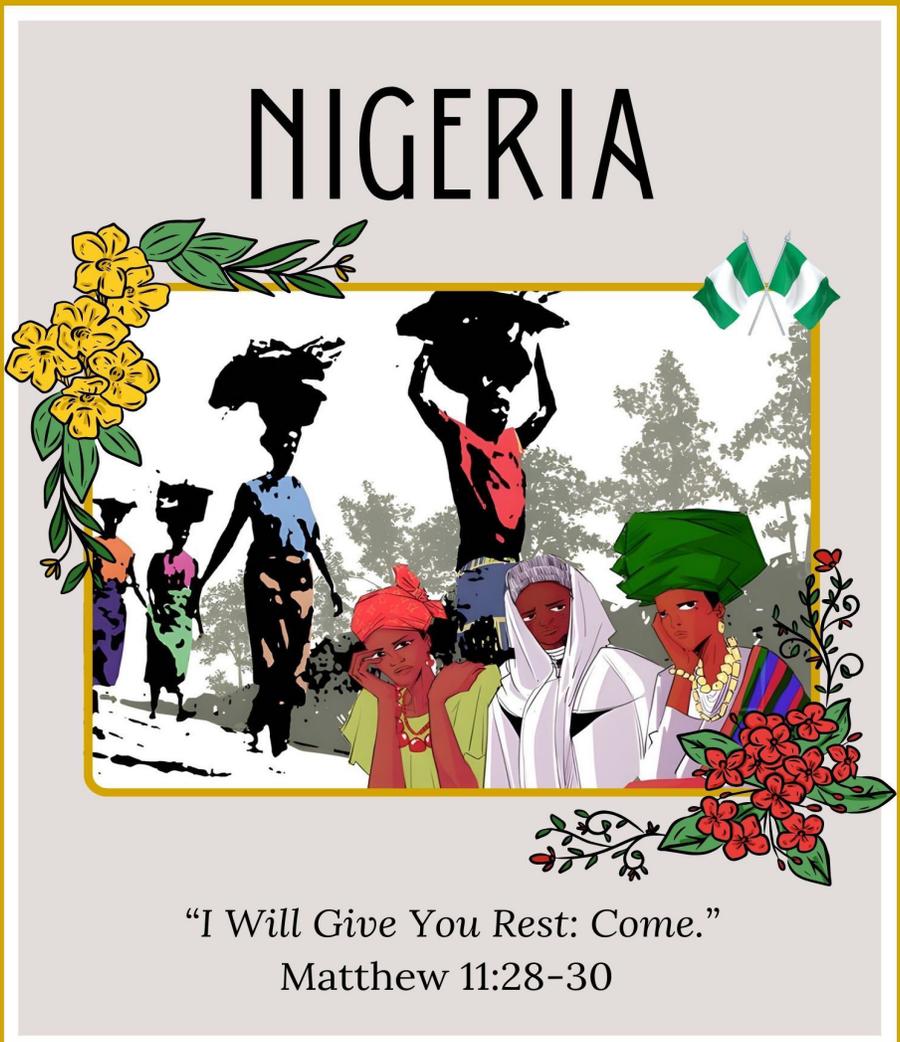
Presbyterian Men March 26 Noon

Palm Sunday March 29

*Sunday worship services
are livestreamed via Zoom
and posted on our
YouTube channel
[@firstpresdale](https://www.youtube.com/@firstpresdale)*



Like and subscribe!



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



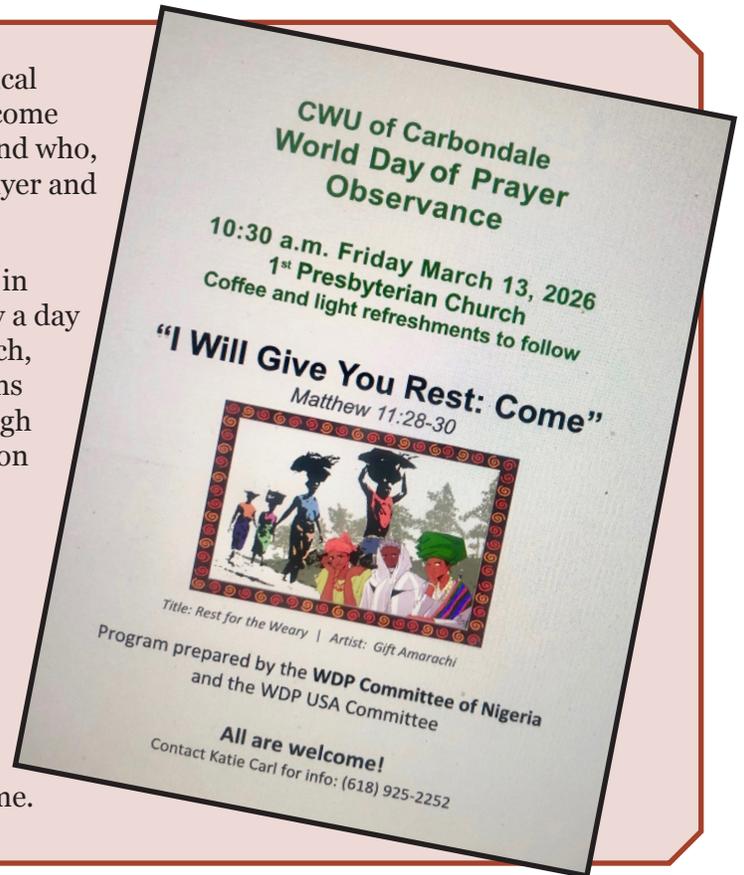
In partnership with World Day of Prayer International



World Day of Prayer (WDP) is a worldwide, ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service.

This annual event is initiated and carried out by women in more than 170 countries and regions. It is symbolized by a day of celebration, typically observed the first Friday in March, bringing women of different races, cultures and traditions together in fellowship, understanding and action. Through World Day of Prayer, women affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and have immeasurable influence in the world.

Church Women United of Carbondale will host their World Day of Prayer observance Friday, March 13, 2026 at 10:30 am in Fellowship Hall. This year's program **"I Will Give You Rest: Come"** was developed by the WDP Committee of Nigeria and the WPD USA Committee. Coffee and light refreshments will follow the program, and all are welcome.



Last month, a small but talkative **Dinner Group** shared stories and laughter while enjoying pizza and other Italian dishes at Pagliai's.



March 19, 2026 at 5:30 pm we'll gather at a Southern Illinois institution, Giant City Lodge. It's always a joy to drive through the park in the spring and marvel at the beauty of God's creation. Email jillhertzing@aol.com to RSVP.



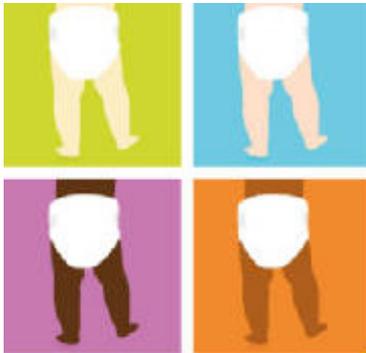
MISSION Updates

Our First Sunday focus for March 2026 is the Survivor Empowerment Center (formerly known as the Women's Center). The Survivor Empowerment Center's mission is to end domestic violence and sexual assault in Southern Illinois and to assist survivors of these crimes and their non-offending significant others.



Items (preferably new) needed include:

- Fall/winter jackets & coats (any, especially children's)
- Furniture & household items
- Sanitizing wipes/spray & hand sanitizer
- Socks (all colors & sizes)
- Sneakers & athletic shoes (all sizes & genders)
- Towels
- Kids & baby shampoo, soap, lotion & toothpaste
- Women's pajamas, hoodies, sweatpants, & leggings (all sizes)
- Glass, plastic or paper drinking cups; plates, bowls, utensils
- Masks (adult & children sizes)
- Bras (sports/regular; all sizes, esp. AA, A & E)
- Toddler boy clothes (size 2T-5T) & shoes (size 1-12)
- Pillows & comforters
- Body spray, perfume & cologne
- Makeup (all kinds)
- Women's shoes (any style, esp. size 5)
- Women's slacks, khakis, work pants (Size 16+)



The **Diaper Bank of Southern Illinois** is serving two new agencies: Spero Family Services in Mt. Vernon and the Salvation Army in Centralia. First United Methodist Church of Carbondale held a diaper drive during February.



Mission thanks everyone who responded to our request for **Feed My Sheep food donations** to help us prepare meals for our community. With the reopening of the Carbondale Warming Center, we are again feeding their guests, as well as people at Bethel AME Church. We're excited to announce that Jill Hertzling has agreed to become a Certified Food Protection Manager, joining Lily and Jane in supervising our cooking and serving teams. Thank you, Jill for responding to this need!

The Souper Bowl of Caring Offering collected \$2,624.06 to date to help feed our community.

The Mission Ministry voted to divide the money between Bethel AME's Feed My Sheep program (60%) and Good Samaritan Ministries (40%). You can still contribute (write *Souper Bowl* in the check memo line). Thank you!



The February 2026 **Free Laundry Day** began with a crowd, serving 36 guests and spending \$385 in quarters. To volunteer at the March 11, 2026 Free Laundry Day, please email carbondalelaundryproject@gmail.com. Remember: **the Carbondale Laundry Project is looking for a new coordinator**, so if you feel called to this ministry and/or have questions, reach out to Jane Swanson or Bill Martens to discuss.

Support Free Laundry Day (and the environment!) by purchasing **Tru-Earth Laundry Eco-Strips** at church or online at <https://tru-earth.sjv.io/CarbondaleLaundryProject>.



The Green Guardians encourage us to reflect on how you can observe and celebrate these environmental and species awareness days and weeks during March 2026, for which you have particular interest.

- 2-6 - Food Waste Action Week * 3 - World Wildlife Day
- 4 - World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development
- 6 - World Conservation Strategy Day * 8 - Solar Appreciation Day
- 12 - National Plant a Flower Day 14 - International Day of Action for Rivers
- 15 - Buzzards Day 16 - Digital Cleanup Day & World Panda Day
- 18 - Global Recycling Day & World Servals Day
- 20 - World Rewilding Day & World Sparrows Day
- 21 - International Day of Forests, National Renewable Energy Day,
World Frogs Day, World Planting Day & World Wood Day
- 22 - World Seals Day & World Water Day 23 - World Climate Day & World Meteorological Day
- 30 - International Day of Zero Waste *



** The UN-sponsored International Day of Zero Waste highlights the importance of bolstering waste management globally and the need to promote sustainable production and consumption patterns. The concern is that every year, humanity generates between 2.1 billion and 2.3 billion tonnes of municipal solid waste. Without urgent action, the annual waste generation will hit 3.8 billion tonnes by 2050. Visit <https://unhabitat.org/international-day-of-zero-waste> to learn more.*



February 25, 2026 in Fellowship Hall, the Illinois Department of Human Services and the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness hosted a **Town Hall and Listening Session** focused on statewide strategies to address homelessness, which is estimated to impact 13,000 Illinoisans on any given day. (Photos: Lisa Hollabaugh)



During Lent, **Children's Church School** will look at Psalm 23, where God is described in those familiar words, as *our shepherd*. We will tie this to Jesus's words, "*I am the good shepherd.*" Jesus spoke of how the shepherd will search for even one lost sheep, which strengthens our assurance that God in Jesus will always be with us, and cares for us.



**Children's
Church School**

We'll also be watching our live caterpillars turn first into chrysalises, then into butterflies. Through the ages, the butterfly has symbolized Jesus's resurrection; this transformation symbolizes how the love of God and Jesus grow in us.

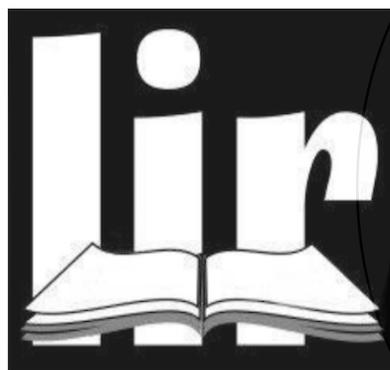
Easter Sunday morning—the day of Jesus's resurrection—we'll release our butterflies with the whole congregation watching! We hope you'll join us. (Photo: Judy Beyler)



Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) President and CEO John Antes (right) is the featured speaker at the **March 18, 2026 meeting of Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement**. Antes has more than thirty years of experience in health care leadership, including prior service as the President of Missouri Baptist Medical Center.

Antes advocates for strengthening access to care in rural communities. He will discuss recent developments across SIH and share perspectives on opportunities and challenges shaping health care delivery in southern Illinois.

The meeting, free and open to the public, begins at 10:30 am at Epiphany Lutheran Church in Carbondale. A coffee hour begins at 9:30 am. (Photo provided)



**S.I. Learning
in Retirement**





Happy March from the Presbyterian Preschool! It's hard to believe we only have three months left of the school year. Last month was cold, but we had fun celebrating Valentine's Day, kindness and the Chinese New Year.



When we couldn't go outside to play, we brought the snow inside!

This month, the Frog class will learn about the upcoming spring season, life cycles and St. Patrick's Day. The Polliwog class will learn about dinosaurs, opposites and the weather. We wish everyone a wonderful month ahead! (Photos provided)



Learning using a Valentine's Day candy graph.



Puzzle fun.

The Mission Ministry is pleased to announce that Lance Davis Jr. has agreed to serve on the Preschool Board. Thank you, Lance!





Contributions to First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale are tax deductible under 501(c)(3) guidelines (consult your tax professional). Donate on Sunday mornings, by direct deposit or mail, by clicking the "Give Now" button at www.firstprescdale.org or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera.

Financial Report January 2026		8% of the year completed	
Income Line	Income YTD	Annual Budget	
Pledges	\$ 54,287.00	\$ 194,000.00	28%
Nonpledge & Cash Offerings	\$ 880.42	\$ 12,500.00	7%
Per Capita	\$ 374.00	\$ 1,500.00	25%
Transfer From Investments	\$ -	\$ 59,310.47	0%
Other (e.g., Interest, Endowments)	\$ 3,934.66	\$ 18,950.00	21%
Total Income	\$ 59,476.08	\$ 286,260.47	21%
Expenditure Line	Expenditures YTD	Annual Budget	
Mission	\$ 100.00	\$ 10,098.00	1%
Pastoral Ministry	\$ -	\$ 67,035.04	0%
Staff	\$ 7,920.15	\$ 95,203.43	8%
Faith Development	\$ -	\$ 1,400.00	0%
Worship & Music	\$ 600.00	\$ 3,728.00	16%
Communication/Administration	\$ 4,580.24	\$ 17,496.00	26%
Facilities/Capital	\$ 11,501.89	\$ 89,800.00	13%
Christian Nurture	\$ 539.24	\$ 1,500.00	36%
Total Expenditures	\$ 25,241.52	\$ 286,260.47	9%
Income over Expenditures	\$ 34,234.56		

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 Peter Hertzling
 5 Gary Merideth
 6 Pat Manfredi
 12 Bill Baumann
 12 Pam Holt
 13 Tracy Prosser
 18 Josh Whitehust
 26 Ashleigh Boyle
 28 Beth Malmquist

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

2 Beth & Lance Davis Jr.
 15 Bob & Elena Luebbers
 23 Beth & Ron Malmquist
 24 Jay & Mary Jane Brooks

If we missed your special day, please accept our apologies and notify the church office so we can update our records.



First Presbyterian Church
Carbondale, Illinois

310 S. University Avenue Carbondale, IL 62901
Phone: (618) 549-2148 / Fax: (618) 549-6423
office@firstpresdale.org / www.firstpresdale.org

The City of Carbondale
Survivor Empowerment Center
celebrates
Women's History Month

**CARBONDALE "AT THE TABLE"
DINNER & DIALOGUE**

**MARCH 3RD 5PM @
CARBONDALE CIVIC CENTER**

**250 Years of Her Story:
Strength, Survival, & Solidarity**

Free & open to the public
Scan QR Code to register or email
Dianah McGreehan
dmcgreehan@carbondaileil.gov
for more information



MARCH
2026



Crisis Care Ministries' **2026 Disaster Emotional and Spiritual Care Academy** will focus on helping faith and community leaders address needs stemming from disasters and other crises. This series of free, live webinars will be held **Tuesdays 10:00-11:30 am Central Time from March 24-April 28, 2026** (webinars will not be recorded). Sponsors include Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Lutheran Disaster Response and Church World Service, among others. Register online one time at <https://www.crisiscareministries.net/ccmwebinarhub> and attend as many webinars as you like.