



The Carbondale Presbyterian

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

Sunday Worship - 9:30 a.m.
(10 a.m. starting May 19)
Sunday Fellowship - 10:30 a.m.
(11 a.m. starting May 19)

Session 2024

Bible Study with Bill and J.P.
in Lounge Wed.- 10 a.m.

Bible Study with Kerry via Zoom
Wed. - 3:30 p.m.

First Sunday - May 5

Laundry Day - May 8

Session - May 14

Dinner Group - May 16

Facilities Ministry
Rick Jefferson
James Prest

Clerk of Session
Rob Jensen

Personnel &
Finance Ministries
Keith Beyler

Faith Development
A small *ad hoc*
group

Fellowship Ministry
Dori Jefferson

Worship Ministry
Elizabeth Hamilton
Wendi Zea

Mission Ministry
Peter Hertzling
Jane Swanson

Membership Ministry
Beth Forsberg

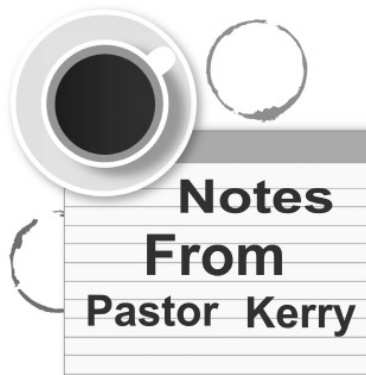
Congregation and Friends

Church Office Hours

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

Phone Extensions:

Rev. Bean 101
Barb 100
Carlyn: 106
SI Diaper Bank 110



We Are Always in Transition

As the calendar flips over to May, I have three things in mind to share with you. All of them are about transitions in some way.

First, all of us in the church, including those folks in our Daycare and Preschool programs, are experiencing a very challenging transition since the Session made its decision to suspend the Daycare effective June 1. I don't need to take this space to say again what has been said in previous letters, emails, and media statements. But I do want to acknowledge the anger and the grief that many of us are feeling as this transition occurs. While it's true that we are all in this together and that God is with us during these difficult times, saying that doesn't take away the pain. But I hope that it reminds us to intentionally practice empathy and work towards reconciliation with one another.

Second, we are trying an experiment for the summer. We will be moving the start of Sunday morning worship a bit later. On Pentecost Sunday, May 19, Sunday worship will begin at 10 a.m. Over the years we have heard that getting out the door and to church by 9:30 can be challenging for some folks. So the Worship Ministry will be checking to see if the new time has an effect on attendance and perceived energy level and simply whether it works for us. I'm pretty sure you can count on some sort of questionnaire later in the summer in order to elicit your feedback.

Third, I hope that you're planning to attend (or at least watch) our radio-style musical murder-mystery melodrama *The Brief Case of the Missing Brief Case*. The performance is coming right up: Sunday evening May 5. We'll be offering desserts and beverages in the fellowship hall at 6:15 p.m. or so and the plan is for the production to start in the sanctuary (and on Zoom!) around 7 p.m. What does this have to do with transition? Well, it's the next to last of these silly shows I'll be doing with you. I'm hoping that we'll have one last full-blown no-holds-barred production in the fall of 2025 before I retire. So please join us. The donations go towards the Carbondale Laundry project. The cast is very talented and will do the best they can with I give them to work with.

Someone once said that the only constant in our lives is change. I think that's true, so let us live and learn from all the transitions we navigate.

Kerry



Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024, our worship time will change to **10 a.m.** Worship with us in person or via Zoom (Meeting ID: 824 8455 3329). Afterward, you're invited to join us for coffee and conversation in Fellowship Hall.

PENTECOST OFFERING ON MAY 19

The **Pentecost Offering** will be received this year on May 19. A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering is retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people

within our own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.



By giving to the Pentecost Offering, our congregation participates in helping our children, youth, and young adults grow up to proclaim with the Psalmist, "O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds."

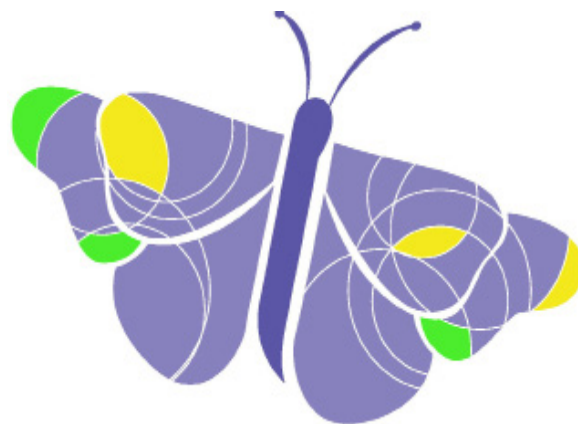
Our Administrative Assistant, Barb Stewart, emails the worship volunteer schedule each quarter and also sends a Thursday reminder to those with worship roles the following Sunday. We understand that some of you haven't been receiving these messages.

These messages may be landing in your Spam (also called Junk, Clutter or Bulk) folder. Consult Google or YouTube (or ask a tech-savvy friend) to find out how to locate this folder and mark these senders as safe. The office@firstprescdale.org and alerts@firstprescdale.org e-mail addresses should be added to your Safe contacts list.

If you're a regular worship volunteer and realize you haven't received the latest quarterly schedule, reach out to Barb or Wendi Zea who will get a copy to you in a format that works. Thank you to all our wonderful worship volunteers!

BOOK DISCUSSION: TRANSGENDER CHRISTIANS

The national organization of Presbyterian Women is hosting a series of online Justice and Peace Book Discussion Groups. On Monday, May 13 (5:30-7:30 pm). The book is "Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians" by Austen Hartke. The online discussion will entail a deep look at Scriptures and lived experiences of transgender Christians to guide an understanding of and learning compassion for



There are two opportunities to discuss "Transforming," both of which are open to all, not just Presbyterian Women.

First, join the national PW zoom discussion by registering at https://www.presbyterian-women.org/what_we_do/work-for-justice/

Second, participate in a local in-person discussion at First Presbyterian, at a time convenient to participants. Contact Diane Cash or Jane Swanson for more information.

Stay tuned for future national online and local in-person book discussions, including "A Place Called Home: A Memoir" by David Ambroz, which tells the story of a homeless child who navigates the foster care system (July 8), and "Poverty, by America" by Matthew Desmond (September 9).

FREE LAUNDRY PROJECT

The April Free Laundry Project was one of biggest days yet. The volunteers served 60 people and spent \$600 on laundry. Bill Martens, Jane Swanson and Rick Jefferson volunteered. There were many newcomers. The Tru Earth laundry strips are working very well and allow for more efficiency and less waste. The next Free Laundry Day will be May 8. Contact Jane Swanson or Bill Martens (carbondaellaundryproject@gmail.com) if you're interested in volunteering.

Speaking of laundry strips, Tru Earth just celebrated its fifth anniversary, and estimated that they've kept 175 million plastic containers out of landfills and donated 38 million laundry strips to community projects like ours. Keep supporting the Laundry Project by purchasing laundry strips.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY: PRISONER VISITATION AND SUPPORT

For those who may feel the call of Matthew 25:26 "I was in prison and you came to visit me," here is an opportunity: Prisoner Visitation and Support is an organization that visits people incarcerated in federal and military prisons. The mission is to provide face-to-face contact with a member of the outside world, on a regular basis. The priority is on prisoners who do not receive visits from family or friends. Locally, PVS volunteers visit at USP Marion, which is in need of volunteer visitors.

More information can be found at www.prisonervisitation.org or by contacting Jim Carl at jcarl@siu.edu. There also is a pamphlet on the Mission Ministry bulletin board in the narthex.

MISSION

"FIRST SUNDAY" MAY 5

In honor of **Mother's Day** in May, the Mission Ministry is collecting donations for moms at the Survivor Empowerment Center. Here is a list of needed items from the website:

Glass, plastic or paper drinking cups; plates, bowls, utensils
Sanitizing wipes, sanitizing spray, and hand sanitizer
Full size hygiene products
Socks - all colors and sizes
Underwear - all ages and genders
Bras, Sports and Regular - all sizes; particularly AA, A and E
Towels
Air mattresses and pumps.
Pillows and comforters
Sneakers and athletic shoes - all sizes and genders
Kids and baby shampoo, soap, lotion and toothpaste
Toddler boy clothes (size 2T-5T) and shoes (size 1-12)

Body spray, perfume and cologne
Women's pajamas, hoodies, sweatpants, and leggings (all sizes)
Women's slacks, khakis, work pants (Size 16 and up)
Make-up (all kinds)

Monetary donations are also welcome.

Of course, we always welcome items for all our local missions: the Good Samaritan Food Pantry, the Carbondale Warming Center, Feed My Sheep 2nd Tuesday at Bethel AME, the Laundry Project, and the Diaper Bank.

RADIO PLAY

Mark your calendars for the upcoming radio play, *The Brief Case of the Missing Briefcase* on May 5. Fellowship Hall will open at 6:15 p.m. for a dessert sale and fellowship. The show will begin at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. Donations will support the Free Laundry Project. If you would like to donate a dessert for the sale, please contact Cindy Buys.

CHURCH SCHOOL

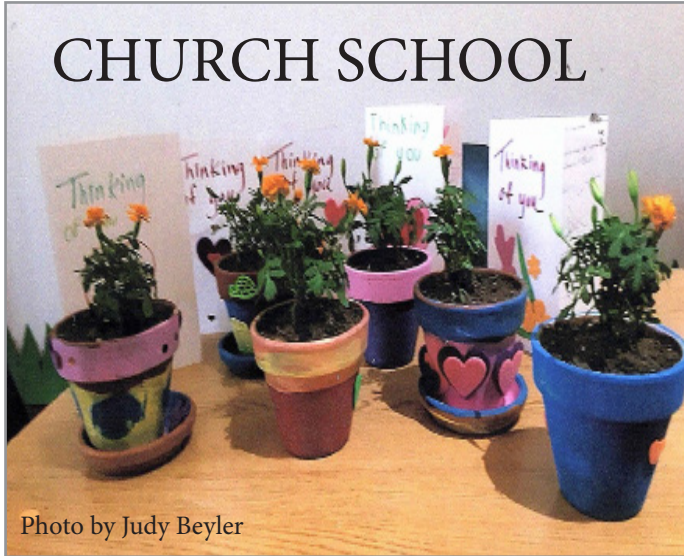


Photo by Judy Beyler

Since Easter, we've been looking at the parable of the Good Samaritan. We've talked about how some people are easy to help, and a variety of children participated in painting a small clay flower pot and planting a flowering plant in it. They also made cards for some of our people who aren't able to get to worship and had the congregation sign the cards during fellowship time. We will look at people who are tough to help through a video and consider possible situations using computer software. We'll also talk about how children are NOT expected to help adults, but should get an adult quickly if asked to do so.

CAMP CAREW SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE - MAY 1

May 1 is the deadline to submit applications for Camp Carew Scholarships. Please contact Kitty Trescott for the application form. Registration for Camp Carew will be done on line this year. Check their website for details, dates, camps, and costs. The scholarship from First Presbyterian Church reimburses the payer half of the camp fees for one week.

ELDERS AND DEACONS INSTALLED



Photo by Lisa Hollabaugh

During worship April 7, 2024, Elizabeth Hamilton and Dori Jefferson were ordained and installed as Ruling Elders. Beth Forsberg and Rick Jefferson were installed as Ruling Elders. Brenda Gilbert, Jill Hertzling, Melissa Jensen, and Sarah Merideth were installed as Deacons. Thanks to these church members for stepping up and serving the rest of us with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

□ The Green Calendar □

The Green Guardians encourage you to reflect on how you can observe and celebrate these special days in May 2024.

□ MAY 13 is NATIONAL WINDMILL

DAY

Do a Google search for National Windmill Day to learn the long history of windmills from flood control and grinding grain to their current importance as turbines in generating energy from wind.

□ MAY 16 is NATIONAL LOVE A TREE

DAY

Celebrate National Love a Tree Day and help make the world greener — plant a tree or care for an existing one. Tree-huggers: show your love for your favorite trees!

□ MAY 17 is ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY

Endangered Species Day is celebrated as a way of raising awareness for different species. Seeing as they can't advocate for themselves, it's up to us to fight for them! Also, this year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act.

□ MAY 17 is WORLD RECYCLING

DAY

This is a day sponsored by UNESCO to encourage us to use resources carefully and to reuse and recycle whenever possible. See reports in the newsletter for efforts undertaken by the Green Guardians to support this goal. Green Guardians will give a recycling presentation at church May 19.

□ MAY 20 is WORLD BEE DAY

Have you ever been asked to “help save the bees” and wondered how you can make a real impact? Why not plant a “pollinator garden” to make the bees happy? World Bee Day was designated by the United Nations to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators and the threats they face.

□ MAY 29 is LEARN ABOUT COMPOSTING

DAY

Learn to Compost Day is a great opportunity to learn more about composting and how to get started. It is dedicated to promoting composting and educating people about its benefits and techniques. Get involved, give it a try, and ask for Green Guardian guidance.



A suppelement to last month's Earth Day information

At the department store:

Be mindful of clothing purchases. Opt for consignment shopping or “hand-me-downs,” if possible. Clothing manufacture, care, and disposal accounts for about 10% of all greenhouse gas pollution. A major source of microplastics in the environment comes from laundry wash water (e.g. from polyester and acrylic fabrics). Natural fibers are better choices. The fashion industry produces 150 billion garments a year, yet only 1% of all discarded clothing is recycled. The average person buys 60% more items of clothing than 15 years ago, but keeps them half as long.



DINNER GROUP

For our April dinner, a small but brave group met at Giant City Lodge. It was a stormy night but the clouds were beautiful, the food delicious and the conversation friendly. May 16, we will meet at Red Lobster in Marion at 5:30. Please join us for fellowship and seafood. If you are planning to attend email jillhertzing@aol.com.



Birthdays

5/3 Forrest Stewart
5/7 Joseph Prest
5/12 Linda Brandon
5/13 Barb Stewart
5/14 Archer Beyler
5/15 Ann Warner
5/17 Wendi Zea
5/18 Kellyn Daly
5/23 Kara Hertzing
5/28 Jacob Buys

Anniversaries

5/13 David and Brenda Gilbert
5/25 Orlan and Denise Brown
5/28 Keith and Judy Beyler
5/30 Gary and Sarah Merideth



PRESCHOOL

It is hard to believe we are at the end of our school year. The school year has hopped by, and we are excited for summer break and our Summer Session. If you know of families with children ages 3-6 years, we still have room in our summer and fall 2024-2025 classes, please send them our way.

During May, we look forward to more warmer weather, sunshine, and celebrating all our mother figures on their special day. Currently we are learning about insects and yoga. Our Tadpoles will be growing up to the

Frog class next year, they are so excited to be Frogs. The Frog class will be learning about kindergarten, the countdown until graduation, and the bittersweet send off to kindergarten. We will have a special celebration for our preschool graduates with a sing and potluck at Evergreen Park Friday, May 24 at 10:30 a.m.

Please join us for our Spring Preschool Prom Friday, May 17 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We will have games, dancing, food, drinks, and a silent auction. This prom is our largest fundraiser of the year, and we would love to have you come and have fun with us.

Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful women of Presbyterian Church and the mothers of our beautiful students.

Photos furnished by Preschool



Maundy Thursday



Palm Sunday



Easter Sunday



Photos by Lisa Hollabaugh



The Snider Hill Interest Group of Small Groups Ministry is coordinating three cemetery maintenance workdays in 2024. Help us spruce up the cemetery for the major summer holidays. We'll gather at the cemetery (off Park Avenue east of Lewis Lane) about 9 a.m. and work until 11 or 12. Please bring any garden/weeding tools, brooms, work gloves, trash bags and water. We'll also pick up trash from the woods edges. Rolanda Quick and Bob Burton are planning to mow the cemetery sometime during the week before each workday.

Our first workday will be Saturday, May 18 to be ready for Memorial Day on May 27. We'll also place flags on veteran graves...big "thank-you" to Gary Merideth and the Lions Club for new flags.

Our second workday will be Saturday, June 29 in preparation for Independence Day July 4.

Our final workday will be Saturday, August 24 prior to Labor Day weekend.

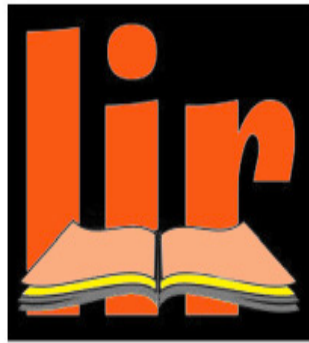
In November we will again place flags on graves of veterans in observance of Veterans Day.



Last month, during the weekend of the total solar eclipse, retired PCUSA Reverend Paul Uzel and his Dubuque, Iowa family camped in the Lounge. That Sunday Paul gave an informative eclipse presentation to a packed Fellowship Hall and the family expressed its gratitude for the church's hospitality with a financial contribution.

Church Women United will be celebrating May Friendship Day May 10 at Faith Temple Church of God in Christ at 604 N. Marion St. The program will be *What does the Lord require of you - Love Mercy*. It will start at 10:30, followed by a light lunch. All women are invited to attend.





S.I. Learning in Retirement

The annual luncheon of Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement will be held May 15 at Giant City Lodge. The luncheon will follow a presentation about a new system of carbon capture by Scott Hamilton-Brehm, microbiology professor at SIUC.

The presentation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m, with the luncheon immediately following. The presentation is free and open to the public; the luncheon fee is \$23.00 and requires registration. To register, call SIU Events and Outreach (618-536-7751) or email silir@siu.edu.



Session Synopsis

The session met Tuesday, April 9 at 7 p.m. We began with a devotional reading from the Daily Feast commentary.

We welcomed the new members of the session and began straight away with a long and thoughtful discussion. The result of the discussion was a motion to extend the operation of the Daycare program until May 31.. I was tasked with communicating that decision to the families and staff of the Daycare, as well as, the congregation at large.

The other substantive item was the realignment of Ruling Elders with the Ministries they will be heading up:

Facilities: Rick Jefferson, James Prest

Faith Development and Small Groups: Pastor

Fellowship: Dori Jefferson

Membership: Beth Forsberg

Mission: Peter Hertzling, Jane Swanson

Personnel: Keith Beyler

Worship: Elizabeth Hamilton, Wendi Zea

Finances will be the responsibility of a team: Linda Brandon (Church Treasurer), Keith Beyler, and Rob Jensen

Financial Reports and Ministries' reports were submitted, read, and approved.

Kerry



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 March 2024

25% of the year completed

Line	Income	Budget	
Pledges	\$ 82,817.00	\$ 220,000.00	38%
Nonpledge Offerings	\$ 2,909.73	\$ 12,000.00	24%
Per Capita	\$ 1,340.00	\$ 1,500.00	89%
Trans. From Investments	\$ -	\$ 41,371.01	0%
Miscellaneous	\$ 4,579.57	\$ 19,225.00	24%
Totals	\$ 91,646.30	\$ 294,096.01	

Line	Expenditures	Budget	
Mission	\$ 100.00	\$ 13,770.00	1%
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 20,144.16	\$ 88,573.99	23%
Staff	\$ 20,101.11	\$ 88,577.02	23%
Faith Development	\$ 7.50	\$ 3,050.00	0%
Worship & Music	\$ 150.00	\$ 3,475.00	4%
Comm/Administration	\$ 6,661.86	\$ 18,150.00	37%
Property/Capital	\$ 26,372.24	\$ 76,100.00	35%
Christian Nurture	\$ 71.95	\$ 2,400.00	3%
Total	\$ 73,608.82	\$ 294,096.01	25%

Revenues over Expenses \$ 18,037.48

Oops

Thieves target calalytic converts on church vans.

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



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Carbondale, Illinois

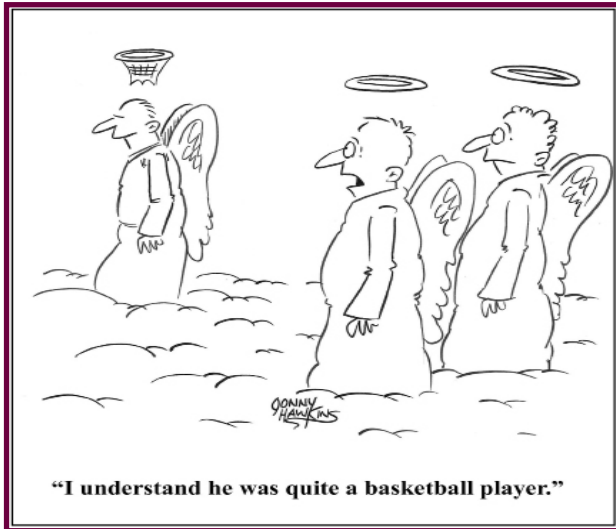
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Web Address: <http://www.firstprescdale.org>

Pastor: Rev. Kerry Bean, Email: pastorkerry@firstprescdale.org



In the first century The Ladies' Aid Society, later known as the Womens Association, contributed greatly to the life of the church. In addition to their study and missionary work they frequently raised funds for some special church improvement. from *One Hundred Years*