



The Carbondale Presbyterian

Editor: Lisa C. Hollabaugh (firstpresnews@gmail.com) / www.firstpresdale.org
First Presbyterian Church / 310 S. University Avenue / Carbondale, Illinois 62901
(618) 549-2148 / Find us on Facebook — First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale IL

Sunday Worship 10:00 am
w/Children's Church School & Childcare
Zoom ID 824 8455 3329
Followed by **Coffee Fellowship**

Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm
Tues—April 1, 8, 22, 29 Wed—April 16

Wednesday Bible Study Classes
10:00 am w/Bill & J.P. (Lounge)
3:30 pm w/Pastor Kerry (Zoom)
6:30 pm w/Rev. Beyler (Conf. Rm.)
(meets 7:00 pm April 16)

Lenten Vespers April 2, 9 & 16
Wednesdays 5:30 pm (Zoom)

First Sunday collection April 6

Creation Care Discussion April 6

Session Meeting April 8 7:00 pm

Free Laundry Day April 9
10:00 am-2:00 pm at Laundry World

Choir performs April 13 & 20

Presbyterian Women Meeting
April 15 1:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship April 17 6:00 pm

Easter Sunday April 20
6:30 am Sunrise Service
9:00-10:00 am Easter Breakfast
10:00 am Morning Worship

One Great Hour of Sharing
Special Offering collected April 20

Men's Fellowship Meeting
April 24 12:00 noon

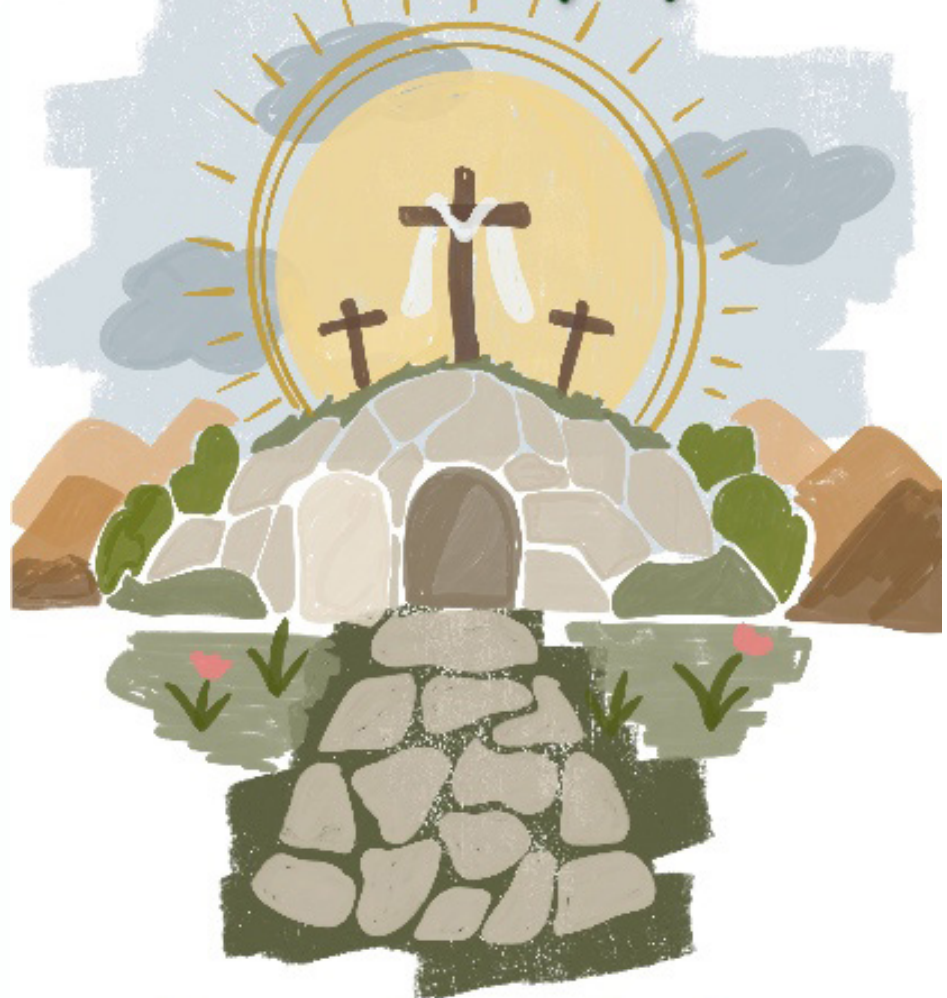
Dinner Group April 24 5:30 pm
Giant City Lodge, Makanda

Carolyn Hollabaugh Watercolor
Exhibit Reception April 25
The Varsity Center, Carbondale

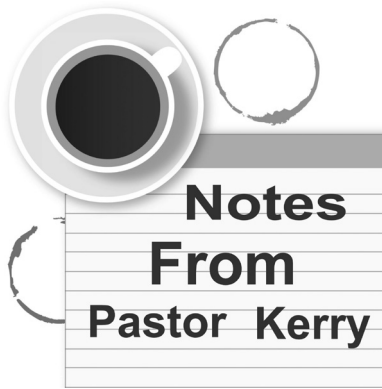
Presbyterian Preschool
Spring Fling April 25 5:00-7:00 pm

Hope in a Troubled World
Fellowship Discussion
April 27 after worship

Easter Sunday April 20



6:30 am Sunrise Service
9:00-10:00 am Easter Breakfast
10:00 am Morning Worship



The Gospel Truth

As most of us know, the word *gospel* translates into English as “good news.” In the New Testament, we encounter four versions of the good news that God sent us Jesus Christ to save and reconcile us. These are actions we are unable to do for ourselves—even by living a good life with high moral standards.

The gospels culminate with their accounts of Jesus’s crucifixion on Good Friday and resurrection on Easter Sunday (although Mark’s account is somewhat incomplete, especially in the oldest manuscripts we have). Although the gospels don’t always agree on the details, the thematic message binding them together is that *God acted powerfully through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, to bring us fully back to God*. This includes our life after this life—in other words, eternal communion with God.

Why did God do this? It’s not because we’re good enough on our own. The Apostle Paul sums it up: “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” No, it is because God is gracious. Paul writes that we are saved by God’s grace alone—because God is loving. Most of us can recite John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that God gave the only Son so that all who believe might not perish but have eternal life.”

This Easter Sunday, let’s get back to the basics. Let us hear and believe the good news that God is good to us all the time. Through God’s powerful and gracious actions, death has lost its sting. Through Jesus Christ, we are fully reconciled to God and one another. Let us believe, because it is the gospel truth. —Kerry

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

Imogene C. Beckemeyer

June 21, 1929 – March 26, 2025

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





UPDATES AND REMINDERS FROM THE WORSHIP MINISTRY

Wendi Zea & Beth (Forsberg) Davis, Worship Elders

- **Lenten Vespers** continue Wednesday, April 2, 9 & 16, 2025 at 5:30 pm (Zoom ID 824 8455 3329); recorded Vespers services are viewable online on our YouTube channel (@firstprescdale).
- Join us for our **Maundy Thursday service** April 17, 2025 at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. A simple meal will be followed by a service incorporating the Seder tradition.
- In addition to 10:00 am worship April 20, 2025 in the Sanctuary and via Zoom, we'll gather for an in-person only **Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 am** on the outdoor green space by the parking lot. Bring your own folding/lawn/camp chairs, and dress for possibly chilly early morning temperatures. (In case of inclement weather, the service will be held in Fellowship Hall.) Please join us for a lovely start to this important day!
- We're bringing back the **"Passing of the Peace"** Easter Sunday. Between the "Giving of the Peace" and the Response, we will pause for a brief moment when we encourage you to offer words of greeting and share the peace with your neighbors. Remember that handshakes are not necessary; a wave, "fist bump" or other sign of greeting is equally effective.
- In addition to being used for the Offering, the **offering cards** make handy bookmarks. Take a few moments before the start of the service to mark hymns and scripture passages, and you'll more readily be able to follow along.



MISSION

Updates

Mission Elders:

Peter Hertzing & Orlan Brown

The 50th Annual Sale to Fight Hunger is fast approaching. Please check your calendar, and sign up to help feed our neighbors!

Sale Days	Donation Days: Volunteers needed!
Fri. May 2 9 am to 6 pm	Mon. Apr. 28 (trucks & heavy lifting)
Sat. May 3 9 am to 2 pm	Tues. Apr. 29 9 am to 4 pm
	Wed. Apr. 30 9 am to 6 pm
	Thurs. May 1, 9 am to 1 pm

Tables and racks are needed beginning Monday, April 28. Trucks are helpful all week, but are especially needed at the end of the sale, to distribute unsold merchandise.

To volunteer, sign up using the QR code below, or go to signupschedule.com/hungersale2025

If you have questions or want more information, call or text Katie Carl (618) 925-2252, or email hungersalecwu@gmail.com



Free Laundry Day draws 40-50 guests to Laundry World the second Wednesday of each month. "Change for a change" coins in the offering plate and purchasing Tru-Earth laundry eco-strips (at church or using the online link at right) support this local mission.

New volunteer Paul Logeman (left) is pictured with Bill Martens (Photo: Lisa Hollabaugh).



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Repairing the breach

ISAIAH 58

Providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.



Text OGHs to 91999 to learn more about how your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference, or visit pcusa.org/oghs.

MATTHEW 25



CARBONDALE LAUNDRY PROJECT



When you place an online order using this link, the Carbondale Laundry Project receives 20% of the total sales value:

<https://tru-earth.sjv.io/CarbondaleLaundryProject>



...to Rob & Melissa Jensen (left) and others who maintain eye-catching bulletin boards in the narthex (Photos: Lisa Hollabaugh).




Join us
Sunday, April 27, 2025 after worship for our rescheduled *Hope in a Troubled World* discussion during the Fellowship hour. Invite a friend!

DINNER GROUP



Last month our group of thirteen visited Tandoor & Tadka for Indian cuisine. We enjoyed unfamiliar yet tasty dishes as the Chef visited our table and answered questions, contributing to a delicious and delightful evening (Photo: Phyllis Beck).

Thursday April 24, 2025 at 5:30 pm following a springtime drive into our spectacular state park, we'll return to our Southern Illinois roots at Giant City Lodge. Email jillhertzing@aol.com to RSVP.



The **Camp Carew 2025** schedule is online at campcarew.org and printed copies have been mailed to former campers. Scholarships for one session at Camp Carew (covering half of the registration cost) are again being made available to First Presbyterian Church members, families and others involved with the church. Contact Kitty Trescott or the church office for a scholarship application form which must be returned to the church office by May 1, 2025.



The **Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement** annual luncheon April 16, 2025 at Giant City Lodge will follow Fern Logan's 10:30 am presentation "An Artist's Journey: Embracing the Joy of Light and Color." Logan is Professor Emerita of Cinema & Photography at SIUC and a board member at Artspace 304 in Carbondale. Her photography has been featured at the Smithsonian, The Studio Museum in Harlem and Kenkeleba House Gallery, and in *Black: Contemporary African American Photographers* at the Brooklyn Museum.

Logan's presentation is free and open to the public. The luncheon (fried chicken or vegetable stir fry) costs \$23 for members; to register, contact Diane McIntyre at (618) 536-7751 by April 11, 2025.

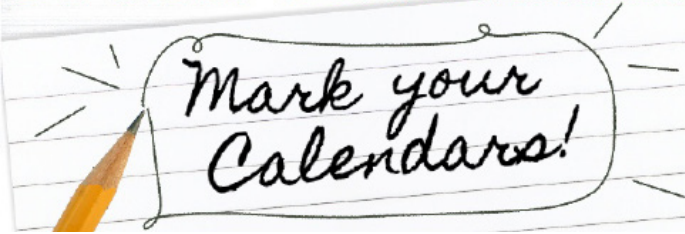
Sunday morning **Church School** children created a little house (below) to represent how friends let the man down through the roof to be healed by Jesus. They then moved on to the computers to learn more about the story.

Photos: Judy Beyler & Kitty Trescott



Next, we'll learn how we become people who can do these good things, as we examine the parables of the farmer spreading seed, leaven and talents.

Green Guardians



Environmental Awareness Days in April:

April 3 — World Aquatic Animal Day
April 12 — Big Wind Day
April 13 — International Plant Appreciation Day
April 14 — National Gardening Day

Featured Environmental Days in April:

April 8 — National All is Ours Day highlights all the wonderful things in the world which belong to everyone and should be shared with all people worldwide. It's like Thanksgiving Day for our natural world.

April 22 — **Earth Day is the premier environmental awareness and concern day.** The theme for Earth Action Day 2025 is **"Our Power, Our Planet"**—urging everyone around the globe to unite behind renewable energy and to triple global generation of clean energy by 2030.

The Green Guardians encourage you to research and observe these April environmental awareness days.

Month-long celebrations in April:

Children and Natural Awareness Month, Keep America Beautiful Month, and Poetic Earth Month.

Environmental Awareness Weeks in April:

April 6-12 — National Environmental Education Week
April 19-27 — National Park Week
April 26-May 4 — International Stewardship Week

April 20 — International Cli-Fi Day

April 25 — National Arbor Day

April 26 — National Go Birding Day - Audubon Day

April 26 — Stop Food Waste Day

April 27 — Air Quality Awareness Day

On behalf of the current deacons, thank you for your selfless service as shepherds to the deacons who have retired this year: Mary Jane Brooks, Rosey Gibbs and Kitty Trescott. I know you will continue to love and serve the congregation just like always.

Welcome (and welcome back) to incoming deacons Phyllis Beck, Carol King and Brenda Myers. We look forward to serving with you.

—Pam Holt

From the
DEACONS



MUSIC PROGRAM

Music Director Dr. Deborah Burris (below far right) and the Worship Ministry have coordinated a wide range of special worship music including the revived choir and guest vocalists and musicians.

The choir has some surprises in store for its Easter and spring performances; email musicdirector@firstpresdale.org if you'd like to lend your voice.

Photos: Lisa Hollabaugh,
YouTube @firstpresdale



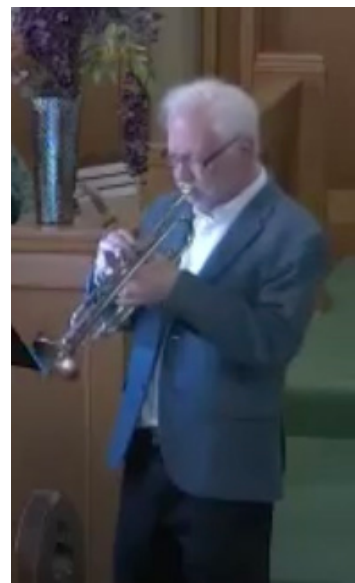
James Barnes (percussion),
Rick Jefferson (guitar) and
Kathy Manfredi (synthesizer)



Dr. Jiyeon Lee and Kathy Manfredi



Dr. Jiyeon Lee and soloist Chloe Beal



Trumpeter Dr. Robert Allison



Friday, April 25, 2025, **Carolyn Hollabaugh** will host a reception for her latest **watercolor exhibit "Through My Eyes"** at The Varsity Center in Carbondale. This is Carolyn's eighth exhibit since moving to the area thirteen years ago. Come mingle with the artist, enjoy light refreshments and the Varsity's cash bar, and discover creative artwork at reasonable prices.

Photos courtesy of the artist

PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

The Frog class continues to explore the life cycles of frogs and plants with a sunflower seed project. Large classroom windows provide an ideal space for students to observe and care for seedlings. The Tadpole and Polliwog classes are learning about weather, feelings, Easter, farms and flowers. We look forward to our annual neighborhood walk when we'll listen to birds chirping and view colorful blooms at nearby St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

Thank you to everyone who helped with a recent playground improvement project. Rolanda Quick, Beth Corker, and Elwood and Joseph Prest shoveled and removed 72 buckets of rock. Mike and Grace Brewer and Oliver Tyra shoveled and cleared additional rock from the swing area, then Chris Tyra placed rubber mats underneath, providing a safe place to play. It looks great and the children are enjoying swinging high into the sky!



The Presbyterian Preschool is accepting applications for the 2025-2026 school year. Please spread the word to family and friends looking for an exceptional early childhood educational experience.

Our Spring Fling free family event is Friday, April 25, 2025 at 5:00 pm. Join us for fun games, a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction. Pizza, cookies and drinks will be available for purchase (details on back page). We hope to see you there!

Photos provided by the Preschool

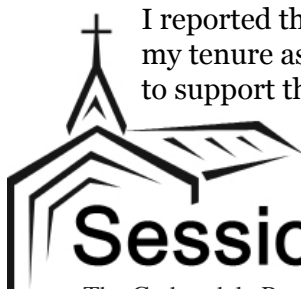
The March 11, 2025 meeting of the session opened with prayer and a reading from *The Gates of Prayer*. The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has begun soliciting congregational input and asked the session for guidance about the financial realities of calling a new pastor. Will the congregation be able to call a full-time pastor? A follow-up session meeting was set for March 25, 2025 to discuss possibilities such as searching for a bi-vocational pastor or sharing a pastor with another congregation.

I reported that congregants who had opinions about one last murder mystery production during my tenure as Covenant Pastor voted for a "radio show" format. The Mission Ministry has agreed to support this event which will be held Friday evening, November 7, 2025 in the sanctuary.

Session and congregational meeting minutes, financial and ministry reports, and the Covenant Pastor's report were reviewed and approved.

Church Officer Training was set for March 23, 2025.

—Kerry



Session Synopsis

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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 firstpresdale.org or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera.

Financial Report February 2025

17% of the year completed

Income Line	Income YTD	Annual Budget	
Pledges	\$ 55,857.88	\$ 203,400.00	27%
Nonpledge Offerings	\$ 1,120.15	\$ 13,600.00	8%
Per Capita	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	0%
Transfer From Investments	\$ -	\$ 55,961.68	0%
Miscellaneous	\$ 4,453.78	\$ 19,700.00	23%

Total Income	\$ 61,431.81	\$ 294,461.68	21%
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Expenditure Line	Expenditures YTD	Annual Budget	
Mission	\$ -	\$ 11,570.00	0%
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 13,797.36	\$ 90,531.26	15%
Staff	\$ 11,643.95	\$ 81,800.42	14%
Faith Development	\$ -	\$ 2,200.00	0%
Worship & Music	\$ 165.00	\$ 2,325.00	7%
Comm/Administration	\$ 6,025.68	\$ 16,800.00	36%
Facilities/Capital	\$ 14,977.08	\$ 87,335.00	17%
Christian Nurture	\$ 42.89	\$ 1,900.00	2%

Total Expenditures	\$ 46,651.96	\$ 294,461.68	16%
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Birthdays

4/3 Kitty Trescott
 4/4 Ernest "Bo" Sullivan
 4/10 Jeff Franklin
 4/12 Jonathon Brooks
 4/12 Marta Davis
 4/14 Ruby Beyler
 4/14 Sara Chaney
 4/21 Melissa Jensen
 4/23 Orlan Brown

Anniversary

4/14 Sara & Lewis Chaney

*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

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www.firstprescdale.org / office@firstprescdale.org

Reverend Kerry Bean (pastorkerry@firstprescdale.org)



On February 18, 1953, the Moderator of the General Assembly, Dr. Herman Morse, held services in our church. A dinner was served in the evening and an open session at 7:45 pm. This was an honor to our church as it is a “once in a lifetime” privilege to hear a man who is listed as one of the ten outstanding church men in the United States.