



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.
Sunday Fellowship - 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study with Bill and JP in Lounge
Wednesdays - 10:00 am

Bible Study with Keerry via Zoom -
Wednesdays 3:30 p.m.

“First Sunday” - April 7

Session Meeting - April 9

Laundry Day - April 10

Dinner Group - April 18

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

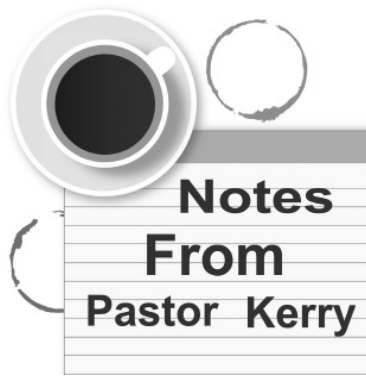
Earth Day

April 22, 2024

THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S



PSALM 24: 1



A Brief on *The Brief Case of the Missing Briefcase*

As you may know, the first song ever played on MTV was “Video Killed the Radio Star”. Well, this month, radio finally gets its revenge.

Coming up Sunday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, the First Presbyterian Theatre of the Air is presenting *Intrepid Inspector Iona and The Brief Case of the Missing Briefcase*. Is it another of those goofy murder mysteries that I am always writing? Yes, it is. But the twist this time is that we’re presenting radio-theatre style: no sets or special effects, just the cast in front of a bunch of microphones- before the “studio audience” and also on Zoom. Plus, the show will only last about an hour (including commercials).

As in years past, we will also be serving beverages and desserts afterwards. Donations will be accepted at the door – or can be made online if you choose to watch via Zoom. If we decide to also add a Baked Goods silent auction, we’ll let you know forthwith.

Here’s just a hint of a teaser for the show: wealthy businessman Locke N. Key is messily murdered at midnight while removing a monogrammed brief case from a wall safe in his northern Chicago office. Intrepid Inspector Iona and her faithful sidekick Dr. Bob, Medical Examiner, are on the case. (No, not the *actual* brief... never mind.) Can they catch the craven criminal, figure out what’s in the briefcase, and save the world- all in sixty minutes? Probably not, but you ought to come and watch them try. Let me know if you have questions.

So here’s the vital info:

- ✓ Time and Date: Sunday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ The place: the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church-Carbondale *and* on Zoom
- ✓ The cost: Donations will be gratefully accepted
- ✓ The cause: Support for the Carbondale Laundry Project
- ✓ Beverages and desserts will be served after the show
- ✓ Reservations? Yes, I have plenty of them, but you needn’t have one.
- ✓ Other perks: it’s short and you can sit in your favorite pew.

I hope to see you there - or on the air.

-Kerry

Adult Literacy Volunteer Opportunities Coming to First Presbyterian



Mission Ministry is discussing the addition of a new ministry to its already impressive list of services to the community. We're considering involvement in adult literacy programs, in conjunction with John A. Logan College. The church can help in two ways: first, by providing a quiet space for tutors and learners to meet together, and second, by recruiting volunteer tutors from among the congregation.

Watch this space for more information in the coming months. If you have more immediate questions, contact Ann Warner, Jane Swanson or Peter Hertzling.

"First Sunday" April 7

For the First Sunday in April, we will continue to focus on our local missions including the Good Samaritan Food Pantry, the Carbondale Warming Center, Feed My Sheep at Bethel AME, Presbyterian Daycare and Preschool, the Laundry Project, and the Diaper Bank.

Free Laundry Project

First Presbyterian volunteers at the March Free Laundry Day were joined again this month by two women who are starting a free laundry program in Mt. Vernon, who came to observe and lend a much-needed hand. Kerry connected them to the Presbyterian church in Mt. Vernon, and we passed along some supplies to help them get started.

We continue to sell packages of Tru Earth laundry strips on Sunday during Fellowship, as well as online at tru-earth.sjv.io/CarbondaleLaundryProject keep bringing quarters. All proceeds are used to cover the costs of washers and dryers on Free Laundry Day.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on Easter Sunday (March 31). For 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. Three programs are supported by this offering - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - and each works in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. Please give generously.

CHURCH SCHOOL

You'll be able to see the children's Holy Week and Easter work in Fellowship Hall on the banners displayed there. By the time you read this, we hope that our butterflies will have been released on Easter Sunday.

In April we will look at the Good Samaritan and follow that with parables about God's kingdom and how it grows.

The Coldest Night of the Year



Thank you to everyone who supported our Coldest Night of the Year team. With your help, we exceeded our \$10K goal and raised \$11,270 for the Carbondale Warming Center (an increase of \$4575 over last year). The Warming Center raised \$51,849, or 86% of its total goal. The Presbyterians were the top fundraising team for the second year. Thank you to the seven members of the team and the many others who volunteered to help on the night of the walk.

CNOY operates in Canada and the United States. To give you a look at the international scope, there were 1066 teams, 13,228 donors, and 963 volunteers. Amongst all that, our Jane Swanson ranked #9 out of 6,842 walkers. The Warming Center ranked #6 in fundraising among the 40 organizations that participated.



Good work, folks, and thanks be to God!



- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 3 - Kitty Trescott | 12 - Jonathon Brooks |
| 4 - Bo Sullivan | 14 - Ruby Beyler |
| 7 - Toni Becker | 20 - Don Leigeber |
| 10 - Jeff Franklin | 21 - Melissa Jensen |
| 12 - Marta Davis | 23 - Orlan Brown |

Can You Step In?

We need a volunteer to update the First Presbyterian Church website on a weekly basis, such as posting the bulletin and upcoming events (takes less than one hour per week, training provided). Contact webmaster@firstprescdale.org if interested.

Information for the 2024 summer program has been distributed. Children and youth, kindergarten through high school, are sure to find a good week to attend. Register online at campcarew.org; a small deposit is required to secure your reservation. This year, scholarships will again be available for one week at Camp Carew through First Presbyterian of Carbondale. Contact Kitty Trescott for a scholarship application and more information.

Camp Carew



The Dinner Group met at the St. Nicholas Brewery for our March gathering. The April dinner is scheduled for Giant City Lodge. It should be a beautiful drive into the park with blooming wildflowers and hopefully some dogwood. Please join us at 5:30 Thursday, April 18. Contact Jill Hertzling, jillhertzling@aol.com, before Wednesday, April 17 so she can let the restaurant know how many to set up for.

Carmalita Cahill, Executive Director of the Carbondale Warming Center, will speak at the Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement meeting April 17 at 10:30 a.m. The Warming Center, an emergency homeless shelter, has been actively assisting community members who have found themselves in a housing crisis since it opened at its current location of 608 E. College Street.

The presentation, free and open to the public, will be at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Chautauqua Street. A coffee and social hour will begin at 9:30 a.m. For more information about Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement, call 618-536-7751 or email silir@siu.edu or check their website: <https://conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir>.



**S.I. Learning
in Retirement**

The Green Calendar

Environmental

Awareness Days

this Month

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

April 14 is NATIONAL GARDENING DAY. Consider how you might grow flowers to add beauty to the Earth and aid bees and other pollinators. Give thought to how you might grow even a small number of vegetables and herbs so as to be more self-sustaining and healthy. Search "National Gardening Day" online for suggestions.

April 22 is EARTH DAY. This is one of the pre-eminent environmental days and calls for your reflection on environmental values and how to support environmental sustainability. The theme this year is "Planet vs. Plastic." Search "Earth Day" for ideas on how to observe this special day. Also: see the bulletin board display in the narthex.

April 26 is ARBOR DAY. This is the day to celebrate trees and their huge contribution to the environmental-health of the Earth. Plant a tree if you can and reflect on our dependence on the forests of the world and the trees all around us. Search "Arbor Day" online. See the work of the Arbor Day Foundation at "arborday.org."

April 26 is NATIONAL AUDUBON DAY —A day for the birds ... and for birders ... and for all of us to reflect on the importance of birds in the world-wide environment. Search online for links to "National Audubon Day" and the "National Audubon Society."



The Earth Day 2024 call is to reduce plastic pollution. Why is this important? We know about the problem of plastics in oceans. Yet researchers indicate that microplastic pollution on land is much higher than microplastic pollution in the ocean, producing adverse health effects on animals and humans. Discarded plastics in landfills and the environment break down into tiny particles that interrupt natural decomposition processes and enter the food chain when animals ingest them. While plastics have many vital uses, the effects of microplastics on human health are just now being discovered. Nanoplastic particles are small enough to be ingested, inhaled, and absorbed through the skin. Even infants have traces of these plastics in their little bodies. No one yet knows the full import of this development, but recent evidence suggests it has a negative impact on reproductive and cardiovascular health.

Of all plastic that has ever been made and discarded, about 80% still sits in landfills or the natural environment. Yes, we dutifully have placed our No.1 & 2 plastics in curbside bins. Sadly, these items might be recyclable in theory, but only a small fraction has actually been remanufactured into other products.

So what is a conscientious Christian consumer to do to honor the Creation? **The Green Guardians will be presenting several ideas over the coming months.**

At the grocery store:

- Avoid plastic packaging. In 2017, packaging production constituted the highest-demanded use for plastics.
- Buy food products in glass or paper rather than plastic.
- Ask the butcher to wrap meats in paper, not on Styrofoam.
- Use reusable bags. Annually, five **trillion** plastic bags are used globally.

When out and about:

- Take your own thermal cup to the coffee shop. Americans throw away around 25 billion Styrofoam coffee cups every year.
- BYOB (Bring your own bottle/box) The U.S. has some of the safest tap water in the world, yet Americans purchase about 50 billion bottles of water per year.
- Carry reusable take-out containers/eating utensils with you to restaurants. Remind servers at fast food establishments not to give you plastic cups, utensils, and straws.

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DAYCARE

Greetings from the daycare. We are excited for the warmer weather ahead this month and watching all of the trees and plants wake from their winter slumber.

Last month, the children enjoyed an egg hunt and discussing the season of spring, St. Patrick's Day, weather, and Easter. They also enjoyed dressing up for a spirit week where they wore rainbow/tie-dye, sparkly items, spring colors/flower attire, favorite sports teams, and pajamas. .

This month, we will be discussing farms/farm animals, life cycles, Earth Day/Recycling, feathered friends, and insects/arachnids. We look forward to learning about all of these important themes.

Wishing everyone a wonderful month ahead.



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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.

At home:

- Avoid storing food in plastic. Consider beeswax bowl covers or glass/metal containers for leftovers.
- Try hand soap, dish soap and shampoo in bars instead of plastic containers.
- Use powdered dishwasher detergent in a box or try our TruEarth laundry sheets to cut down on plastic jugs.

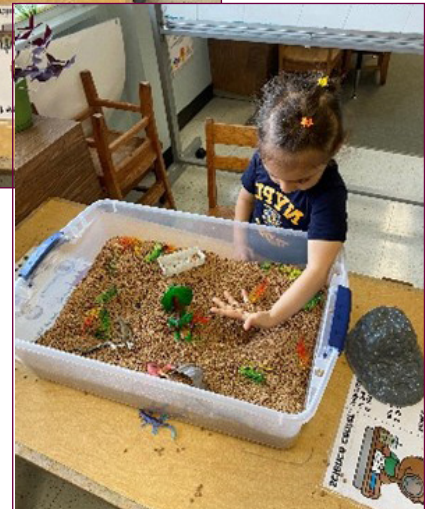
When you can't avoid purchasing plastic, always consider true recyclability. Consider packaging that can be returned to stores and will be recycled into other products. [Green Guardians will be sharing information about this soon.](#)

You can find more information on the EarthDay.org web site. Please take a look.

PRESCHOOL

Happy Easter! The Frog class is continuing to explore the life cycles of frogs and plants with a special project of planting and growing sunflower seeds. Our large classroom windows provide a wonderful space for the kiddos to observe and care for their seedlings. We always look forward to our annual walk around the neighborhood to listen to the birds chirping and to visit the colorful tulips in bloom at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. The Frog class will also learn about Earth Day and the many ways we can help and protect our planet as well as learning about weather. The Tadpole and Polliwog classes will be learning about weather, feelings, Easter, farms, and flowers.

We have a couple great ways to support our preschool as well as the daycare this month. The preschool and daycare are partnering with McNitt's Growers for our annual Spring Plant Sale. We will be taking preorders for beautiful hanging baskets, planters, and all sorts of plants/flowers/herbs. Skip the home & garden stores and get your flowers, items for your garden, gifts, and decorative plants while supporting our programs. Order dates: March 31-April 16 and Delivery Day, April 22 EARTH DAY.





Session Synopsis

Session conducted its monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 12. As usual, we began with a couple of discussion items:

- It was decided that Faith Development Ministry will not have a designated Ruling Elder, but that I will meet with the ministry team on a regular basis to glean ideas and encourage the congregation at large to create new learning opportunities. This is similar to the arrangement we have made with Small Groups.
- There was further conversation about the locking of the fire doors after the beginning of worship. We recognize that folks occasionally get locked out (either from running late or from using the restrooms in the hallway), and that inconvenience must be weighed against providing a layer of security for those folks in the sanctuary.

All financial and ministry reports were accepted. A called meeting was scheduled for March 18.

Kerry

Financial Report February 2024

16% of the year completed

Line	Income	Budget	
Pledges	\$ 70,134.00	\$ 220,000.00	32%
Nonpledge Offerings	\$ 1,372.62	\$ 12,000.00	11%
Per Capita	\$ 1,060.00	\$ 1,500.00	71%
Trans. From Investments	\$ -	\$ 41,371.01	0%
Miscellaneous	\$ 3,964.13	\$ 19,225.00	21%
Totals	\$ 76,530.75	\$ 294,096.01	

Line	Expenditures	Budget	
Mission	\$ -	\$ 13,770.00	0%
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 13,354.74	\$ 88,573.99	15%
Staff	\$ 13,232.27	\$ 88,577.02	15%
Faith Development	\$ 7.50	\$ 3,050.00	0%
Worship & Music	\$ 150.00	\$ 3,475.00	4%
Comm/Administration	\$ 5,844.68	\$ 18,150.00	32%
Property/Capital	\$ 17,698.39	\$ 76,100.00	23%
Christian Nurture	\$ -	\$ 2,400.00	0%
Total	\$ 50,287.58	\$ 294,096.01	17%

Revenues over Expenses

\$ 26,243.17



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.

Oops

:Living in a world of chaos

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



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

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



From the Session minutes April 21, 1907: “The spiritual part of the annual report of the year’s work was made. A verbal report by the Pastor how the Lord had lead him to this field. A written report on the spiritual growth of the members and the burning desire for the Salvation of Souls as never before known in the history of the church.”