

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
321 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET
SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS 62701

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DEADLINE for June issue:
May 16, 2007

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH UPDATE



The monthly newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

May 2007

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

WORSHIP/CLASSES

Sundays:

9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Adult Education Programs
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Sanctuary

Wednesdays:

5:30 p.m. Vespers

Please submit all information for inclusion in the newsletter to the church office to Cindy at the **e-mail address listed above**.

Editorial Coordinator and
Production-Cindy Cass

ALL CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE Friday and Saturday, June 8th and 9th. Hours: Friday 8:30 am. to 4:00 PM. Saturday: 8:30 am. to Noon

We are going to do a church clean up. We have had many items donated over the years. We have a list of these items and it is now posted in Fellowship Hall. If a person who donated any of these items would like them back, you may pick them up before or by May 4, 2007. After this date the items become property of the church. The Building and Grounds Committee will use items or donate as they see fit. We will also be giving church members first chance on purchasing any of the items that we are putting on sale. We hope to have a preview day of the items so you may make an early purchase. More details will be coming out in the Sunday Bulletins, Church Web Page and Church Newsletter.

Now as you start your spring cleaning keep in mind the church can use your good or slightly used items for our sale. You may drop off your items beginning the week of May 7. We ask that **no clothing** be donated. Kay McKee is in need of your help. If you can donate time or merchandise for the sale please call her at 529-9755. Many hands make a job go fast and smoothly. Also this is the time to renew or make new friends at church. We can have a great time and fellowship together.



Heard of the HOLY CLIPPERS?

Wonder what they've been up to all winter? Want to join the action? Read on....

The Holy Clippers is a group of folks who, last fall, took on the challenge of completely renovating our church gardens. First they redesigned the 7th Street entrance to the sanctuary and the courtyard garden. Next they removed the bushes and shrubs in those areas, and along Capitol Avenue, in preparation for the hardscape changes in the courtyard and replacement of the plant materials. Over the winter, the Clippers obtained cost estimates and bids for the planned work. Since there are no church funds set aside for the renovation project, it will be completed as resources become available; talk about faith!

Many things have already taken place. As we entered spring, the Clippers had the five large trees in front of Cook Lounge removed (their roots were compromising the structural integrity of the foundation walls). Some folks began to notice the additional work being done in front of the church and the beginnings of a new patio in the courtyard. Others began to get an inkling of something completely new on the east side of Cook Lounge....a peace walk and meditation area. There will be a number of other exciting new things and, of course, an array of interesting new plants. The end result promises to be a beautiful, comforting space where all are welcome to rest and meditate and seek God's guidance. If you are interested in helping make First Presbyterian Church a beautiful and inviting sanctuary of peace and harmony within downtown Springfield, please contact Sharon Bilotti or Kay McKee.



A C E s in May -- an exciting agenda upcoming

May 6th: **Agricultural Biotechnology** with our own Clark Olson. What is the meaning and significance of gene engineering. Can we engineer nature? Should we? And go how far?

May 13th: **Evolution and Global Warming** with Professor Jim Bonacum from UIS. He is a evolutionary biologist who tells a most interesting story of how global warming and evolution will get along in future years giving specific examples of species and how they respond to climate change. He is an excellent speaker and has a very important tale to tell us.

May 20th: **Thoughts on Growing up in Finland and living in Europe and America** Reflections by our own Riitta Anderson. Looking at Christianity through different lens.

Riitta Anderson

May 27th: **Christian Ecology** with our own Reverend Gene Bilotti. The news these days is increasing ecological. What stance should Christians take toward our environment and the many threats now impinging on it as well as the overloading of our atmosphere with carbon?



Bernard (Bernie) Wiseman was named to the position of director of the Sanctuary Choir by the session at their March meeting. He had been acting as the interim director prior to this action by the session.

Bernie comes to this position with an extensive resume of choral music experience. He has directed church choirs for well over 30 years, serving the following churches.

- Woodside United Methodist Church, Springfield, IL
- Rochester United Methodist Church, Rochester, IL
- First Presbyterian Church, Taylorville, IL
- First Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, IL
- Piper City United Methodist Church, Piper City, IL

As a singer he has participated in the following organizations:

- Capital Chamber Singers, Springfield, IL
- St. Louis Symphony Chorus, St. Louis, MO.
- Springfield Symphony Chorus, Springfield, IL
- Springfield Oratorio Chorus, Springfield, IL

He has sung under the direction of numerous internationally known conductors such as Leonard Slatkin, Ithzak Perlman, Robert Shaw, Nicholas McGegan, Sir Donald Runnicles, Franz Welser-Most, Andrew Litton, William Hickox, David Robertson and others. Choral directors with whom he has worked and learned include Richard Garrin, Robert Kvam, Donald Nally, Thomas Peck and Amy Kaiser. The most significant performance venues include Powell Symphony Hall, St. Louis and Carnegie Hall, New York City.

Bernie has a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Illinois Wesleyan University and did additional work at Western Illinois University. His area of concentration in college was vocal and choral music.

His goals as director of the Sanctuary choir are to present a wide variety and styles of choral music, and rebuild the size and esprit de corps of the choir. In his short time at First Presbyterian he has brought a new level of energy and dedication to the choir.

In addition to Bernie, we welcome his wife, Randy, to First Presbyterian.

Please introduce yourself to Bernie and Randy when you have an opportunity.

JOIN US AT PANTHER CREEK

On Sunday, June 3, The Office of Youth and Family Ministries invites the First Presbyterian Church family to join us at the Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area in Cass County for an afternoon of fellowship, canoeing, fishing, cooking out and other outdoors pursuits. First Presbyterian Church already has reserved a large picnic shelter with fireplace on Prairie Lake, the largest of three manmade lakes at Jim Edgar. Canoes also have been reserved and life jackets and instruction will be provided. Families are asked to bring a picnic dish to share. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. A caravan will leave from church after the Sunday service to go to Jim Edgar. Maps will be provided for those who are going on their own. Please talk to Shannon or Chris if you are interested in attending or are willing to help cook, keep an eye on kids or help with fishing or other activities. This will be an exciting event in a picturesque setting. We look forward to seeing you there.



Children and

YOUTH GATHERINGS...

UPCOMING YOUTH AND FAMILY EVENTS-MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

May 13th: COMMENCEMENT SUNDAY. If your youth is making a significant move in their education (graduating to high school, from high school, from college, etc.) please let the Office of Youth and Family Ministries know. We would like to recognize the accomplishments of these youth in a special service. A reception will follow.

COUNT YOU IN FOR CAMP?

The 2007 schedule of camps, mission trips and bike rides offers something for everyone in the Presbyterian Church family. *The office of Youth and Family Ministries has scholarships available to help pay for the cost of attending camp!* Please get in touch with Shannon or Chris for specific details and registration information.

Senior High Mission Trip, June 16-23

This camp is for kids who have completed 9th through 12th grade. Travel to the beautiful Ozark Mountains to help build a "Habitat for Humanity" home and work on other community projects.

Counselor in Training Camp, June 11-16

Learn how to become a camp counselor while living in a rustic cabin in a wooded setting at Stronghold in Oregon, IL. This camp is for senior high school students. Deadline to register: May 11.

Hancock Christian Camp, July 15-20

Swimming, paddleboat rides, fishing, hiking, music, crafts, Bible study and campfires in a peaceful country setting. This camp is for junior high school students. Deadline is June 17.

PGR Stronghold Jr./Junior High Camp, June 11-16

A combination of bible study, nature observation and daily hikes. Campers will learn how to build a fire and cook outside (under adult supervision of course). For kids who have completed 4th to 8th grades. Registration deadline: May 14.

East Bay First Timers Camp, June 11-13

Three day camp to introduce grade school children to the church camping experience.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS- OR HAVE YOUR PARENTS DO IT!

Some upcoming events:

- ◆ June 3-Canoeing and Picnic at Jim Edgar Park. This is for families and youth...so don't be afraid to participate high schoolers!
- ◆ June 15-Presbyterian Night at the ball field. We'll go to Peoria to watch the Peoria Chiefs play ball. Tickets need ordered! Call Shannon if you're interested in going.

If you have any news to share or suggestions for the newsletter, please contact Shannon at church. We want to hear anything you have to share with your church family. After all, you're a vital part of the church!

If you see an event you'd like to participate in, but need transportation and/or help paying your way, call Shannon at church as well. All youth are encouraged to participate in our activities. The Office of Youth and Family Ministries strives to make participation possible!

Contact Information: shannon@first-pres-church.org or 528/4311 or 343/9917

LET'S GET READY TO FIESTA!!!

Mark your calendars! Yes, everyone! VBS 2007 is right around the corner and we're going to be ready to Fiesta...June 18-22. We'll meet at Hope Church from 6:00 - 8:45 p.m. each evening. Youth ages 13 and older are encouraged to sign up to be a crew leader!! This is a good way for you to still be involved in VBS and gain some leadership skills. It promises to be a fun week and it can be a success with your help. See Shannon or Chris at church if you'd like to be a crew leader.



MAY BIRTHDAYS



1 Jacob Coble	9 Tim Holloway Elise Roeder Ruth Webster Cindy Cass	20 Kate Seymore	27 John Akers Jr. Justin Yakel
2 John Murphy	10 Marjorie Bowers Alex Pfaffe	21 Richard Amoako	28 Evan Orr Clara Marie Young
3 Kim Howard Catherine Korda	11 LuAnn Atkins	23 Blake Ackerman Carla DeLay Chris Schick	30 Byron Luers Melinda Robinson
5 Judith Dees Robert Ross	15 Colin Fritz Linda Grimm Florence Herring Thomas Munroe	24 Frank Choi Cliff Hayes	31 Nancy Legg
6 Florence Anderson Sara Mutman Susan Patton Katherine Pearson	17 Alison Sanders	25 Emilie Kuner Susan Turner	
7 Dan Greer Jr. Erin Holloway Katie Reynolds	19 Gavin Schwermin	26 Cheryl Ecklund Jed Enlow Sarah Watson	



Presbyterian Coffee Project

A new effort sponsored by the Mission Committee is the promotion of fair trade products, mostly coffee and tea, through an organization called Equal Exchange. Through the project farmers earn a fair price for their products, have access to affordable credit, and gain a long-term trading partner they can trust. Small-scale farmers in Latin America, Africa and Asia benefit.

Why are we helping? Because we drink a lot of coffee and often take for granted what is involved in getting it to our coffee cups. And because small farmers don't always get a fair deal.

Look for an exhibit at the reception after **U2Eucharist** and in the future at the church.

Members of the **Health and Healing Team** are:
 Barb Murphy, LuAnn Atkins, Barb Olson, Susan Enlow, Carol Harden, Riitta Anderson, Linda Wheal, Sharon Bilotti, Barb VonBehren.



LECTIONARY FOR MAY 2007

- 6th: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35
- 13th: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 21:22—22:5
John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9
- 20th: Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Revelations 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
- 27th: Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21; John 14:8-17 (25-27)

You are cordially invited to participate in the celebration of the
175th Anniversary of

Indian Point Presbyterian Church
Athens, Illinois
Sunday, May 20, 2007

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service
12:00 p.m. - Basket Dinner
2:00 p.m. - Anniversary Celebration

RSVP: Please respond by May 1, 2007 to Shellie Bricker, 11668 Mossy Cup Lane, Athens, IL. 62613. If you are unable to attend, please send a greeting.

Presbytery Night at the Ball Park

This summer, on Friday, June 15, Presbyterians from Central Illinois will meet together at O'Brien field in Peoria to cheer on the Peoria Chiefs!

Tickets cost \$7.00 and can be purchased through the church. This will be a fun outing for our church family and friends.

Please contact Cindy in the church office to order tickets. Tickets must be ordered no later than May 14. Let's have a great turnout!



Circles to Present Least Coin Donations

Both of our Circles, Faith and Fairhills, will join in the Fellowship of the Least Coin sponsored here in Springfield by Church Women United. The annual event, called May Friendship Day, is on May 4. One person from each circle will present coins collected at each circle meeting throughout the year.

May Friendship Day unites Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and other Christian Women in a common worship experience with emphasis on strengthening friendly relationships. This year's service will be held at Kumler Church, 6090 N. 5th Street beginning at 1:30 p.m.

This year's May Friendship Day theme will focus upon women and children who are among the increasing number of homeless in the United States.

Women of all ages are invited to attend whether members of a circle or not.



Sanctuary Tours begin June 4

Beginning June 4 and continuing through September, the sanctuary will be open to the hundreds of visitors who visit our church to see the Lincoln Pew, learn of the Lincoln's family association with the Presbyterian Church and to view the beautiful Tiffany windows.

Volunteers are needed to fill two shifts daily, Monday – Friday. The hours are 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This outreach program in Springfield's historic district has become quite popular with the summer visitors. Sharing history with one of Springfield's oldest religious communities comes easy and is appreciated by national and international visitors alike.

To volunteer, please contact the church office at 528-4311, or one of the volunteer coordinators, Kathy Hoffmann or Georgia Northrup. An orientation session will be scheduled.

KID'S FUN PAGE

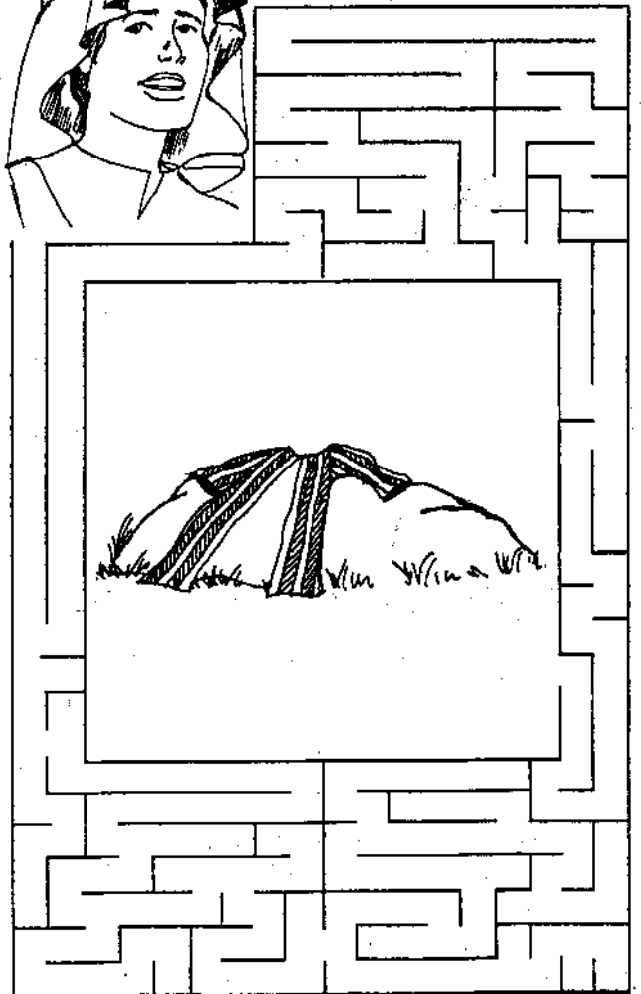
Books Of The Bible

GENESIS MARK PSALMS
JOB LUKE PROVERBS
MATTHEW JOHN EXODUS

G	E	N	E	S	I	S	P
M	A	R	K	R	J	L	R
A	I	O	P	H	O	U	O
T	F	T	S	U	H	K	V
T	T	A	A	M	N	E	E
H	S	H	L	M	P	L	R
E	H	E	M	P	J	O	B
W	O	N	S	A	C	T	S
E	X	O	D	U	S	R	D



Help Joseph find his coat of many colors.



All activities take place in the church unless otherwise noted

May 2007

1*TUESDAY

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II

2*WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering
- Christian Nurture Committee

6:30 p.m. - First Pres Knitting Group
- Film Club

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Friends of the Sangamon Valley Board

3*THURSDAY

4:30 p.m. - Personnel Committee

5:30 p.m. - Yoga Class

6:30 p.m. - World Affairs Council

7:00 p.m. - Deacons

5*SATURDAY

Youth Trip to Six Flags

6*SUNDAY

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens

9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming
- Children's Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Fellowship Interval

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour

4:00 p.m. - Performance Committee
Concert of Young Musicians

8*TUESDAY

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II

9*WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering

6:30 p.m. - First Pres Knitting Group
- Film Club

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

10*THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. - World Affairs Council

7:30 p.m. - Mission Committee

12*SATURDAY

6:00 p.m. - Second Saturday Supper Club

13*SUNDAY

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens

9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming
- Children's Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Fellowship Interval

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour

14*MONDAY

1:30 p.m. - Building & Grounds Committee

15*TUESDAY

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II

16*WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering

6:30 p.m. - First Pres Knitting Group
- Film Club

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

17*THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. - World Affairs Council

7:00 p.m. - Session

18*FRIDAY

9:30 a.m. - Fairhills Circle @ Presbyterian Home

20*SUNDAY

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens

9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming
- Children's Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Fellowship Interval

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour

21*MONDAY

7:00 p.m. - Faith Circle

22*TUESDAY

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II

23*WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering

6:30 p.m. - First Pres Knitting Group
- Film Club

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

24*THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. - World Affairs Council

27*SUNDAY

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens

9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming
- Children's Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Fellowship Interval

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour

28*MONDAY

Church and Office Closed for Memorial Day

29*TUESDAY

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Sect

30*WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship

6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gather

6:30 p.m. - First Pres Knitting Group
- Film Club

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

31*THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. - World Affairs Council

Taparata
Clifford J. Payne