

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
321 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET  
SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS 62701

DEADLINE for October issue:  
September 18, 2008

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Springfield, Illinois  
Permit #899



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH UPDATE

The monthly newsletter of First Presbyterian Church September 2008

### STAFF

Rev. Dr. Clifford J. Hayes, Pastor  
[clifford@lincolnschurch.org](mailto:clifford@lincolnschurch.org) phone ext. 202  
Directors of Children, Youth and  
Family Ministries phone ext. 209  
Chris Young  
[sjroutdoors@comcast.net](mailto:sjroutdoors@comcast.net)  
Aasne Daniels  
[aasne@lincolnschurch.org](mailto:aasne@lincolnschurch.org)  
Dr. Rudolf Zuiderveld, Organist  
[rzuiderveld@ic.edu](mailto:rzuiderveld@ic.edu)  
Bernard Wiseman, Choir Director  
[BRWiseman@aol.com](mailto:BRWiseman@aol.com)

Tom Melton, Buildings Manager  
[tom@lincolnschurch.org](mailto:tom@lincolnschurch.org) phone ext. 210  
Cindy Cass, Office Manager  
[cindy@lincolnschurch.org](mailto:cindy@lincolnschurch.org) phone ext. 204  
Tara Kaeding, Bookkeeper/Assistant to the  
Pastor  
[tara@lincolnschurch.org](mailto:tara@lincolnschurch.org) phone ext. 203  
Mike Self, Security  
SPARC, Janitorial

### OFFICE HOURS

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

### WORSHIP/CLASSES

#### Sundays:

8:15 a.m. – Chapel Worship Service  
9:00 a.m. - Adult Education Programs  
10:30 a.m. - Worship

#### Wednesdays

5:30 p.m. Vespers  
6:00 p.m. Potluck and activities

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

**New Evening Bible Class starting first week of October-Benchmarks.**  
ACEs has received requests for a Bible class that looks at the whole Bible to gain an overall perspective of the message and the Benchmarks God has laid down for us to live by. Ann Kelson has agreed to teach such a class. Sign up sheet will be available.

### BENCHMARKS A Survey of the Bible

We've had many requests for a study of the Bible that familiarizes us with the whole, gives a sense of continuity between the First and Second Testaments and provides background for understanding sections of the Bible that we may encounter in other studies or our personal devotions. Ann Kelson has agreed to lead such a study through the 2008-2009 year.

We're calling the course, *Benchmarks*. A *benchmark* is defined as "a permanently affixed mark that establishes the elevation of a place." It is more commonly used to mean a standard against which progress is measured. We will be looking at the Bible both as a record of the "elevation points" in God's interrelationship with humankind and for standards against which we can measure our own progress.

*Benchmarks* is designed to be more than a talking head dispersing information. As we move from Genesis to Revelation, we will approach THE WORD as a community of disciples (learners), sharing our insights and our struggles, affirming one another's journey, and encouraging a "closer walk."

Each two-hour session will include:

- \* Background and Context
- \* *Benchmarks* for today
- \* Focus on the Scripture
- \* Sharing and Praying the journey
- \* Insights and Imaginings
- \* Fellowship and Encouragement

*Continued on next page*

### Lectionary for September 2008

7<sup>th</sup>: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20  
14<sup>th</sup>: Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35  
21<sup>st</sup>: Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Phillipians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16  
28<sup>th</sup>: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Phillipians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

*Benchmarks* continued from previous page

We'll begin the **first week in October**, meeting weekly **through May, 2009**, with breaks at Christmastime and Holy Week. A more detailed syllabus, including weekly schedule, will be available in September.

We encourage anyone interested in a broader understanding of scripture and in closer community with fellow Christians to join us.

ACE Committee,  
Roy Wehrle, LuAnn Atkins, Co-Chairs.

## **U2 NEWS**

First Presbyterian Church clearly touched the conscience of the Springfield community last April when our fourth U2 Eucharist Service raised \$4,000 to combat the genocide in Darfur, Sudan. Darfur again will be the focus when our church resumes its moving series of U2 Eucharist services at 6 p.m. Saturday, September 27.

The first four services have raised more than \$11,000 for the world's poorest citizens. The \$4,000 donated at the April service was enough to purchase 100 survival kits for refugees fleeing conflict. Rev. Heidi McGinness of Christian Solidarity International pledged to personally deliver kits to refugees on her next trip to Sudan.

The offering collected September 27 also will go to CSI, a human rights organization dedicated to helping the oppressed. Visit [www.csi-int.org](http://www.csi-int.org).

The U2 Eucharist services are community-wide worship services open to all. The last service drew about 170 people, many from outside of our church membership roles. After worship, we always share delicious food from around the world – from Thai curry to Swedish meatballs.

The services feature a normal worship service liturgy and communion. Recorded music of the rock group U2 is played through the new sound system in place of regular hymns. Songs such as One, Grace, Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For, Beautiful Day, When Love Comes to Town, Yahweh and Peace on Earth are staples of our services. The song "40" is based on Psalm 40.

As always, putting together a successful U2 Eucharist is a labor-intensive project requiring many heads, hearts and hands working together. But when the offering is counted and thousands of dollars are collected to help alleviate suffering, the U2 Eucharist truly becomes a labor of love – by everyone here at First Church.

Please join us at 6 p.m. Sept. 27, or better yet, volunteer to help out. We especially need people to bring international dishes to the reception, work as ushers and greeters and help with cleanup afterwards.

Call Chris at 341-8487 to get involved. It will be a Beautiful Day.

## **Executive Presbyter's Perspective**

### **Rev. Susan Krummel**

I am reading a book called "Simple Church." It is very interesting and presents a contrast to one of the ideas about how to bring new people into a congregation. I have often heard people say that having many different programs at a church is a way to encourage people to find their own way into the life of the church. So, if you have a daycare program and a senior citizen's program and lots of small groups and you encourage twelve step programs and other community nonprofit groups to meet in your building, the theory is that people will find their own level of comfort in entering the church community and, perhaps, find their way into membership. For many congregations that see themselves as "program-sized churches", church membership is the ultimate goal.

The theory of the book is almost the opposite. As you can tell from the title, the goal is to simplify the program and calendar of the church so that everything that the church does is working toward the same goal. Halfway through the book, it looks like the main idea is to move people from the worship services into smaller venues in which people move toward relationships with others in the congregation and eventually into service. The goal is not necessarily church membership. The goal is to work at making disciples.

*Continued on next page*

One of the ideas that was presented almost as an aside really caught my attention. The authors talk about Christmas Eve services. Of all of the people who read this newsletter, I would imagine that in at least half of your congregations there is already someone working on special events for the Christmas season, including the Christmas Eve extravaganza. The authors of this book suggest that special worship services on Christmas Eve distract from the main purpose of a congregation by using up so much time and energy on the part of staff and members alike. They say that special Christmas events should be incorporated into the regular weekend services on the weekend before Christmas.

The pastors who are reading this just started to daydream; what would it be like to actually be able to celebrate Christmas Eve and Christmas Day like a normal family? What would it be like to travel to a family event over those days without first having to be part of the way the people in your congregation keep their families busy on Christmas Eve? (and if we are honest, we can always tell which of those family members are at church under protest.)

Now, if you are a lay member of a congregation, just think about all of the energy that is expended for that one night's worth of services, services that really lie outside of the regular worship life of the congregation and whose participants usually include more people who are rarely in worship on a regular Sunday morning than those who make up the heart of the congregation. The authors want us to think "What is the purpose of the Christmas Eve special services; does that purpose match the overall purpose of the congregation; if not, are they merely distracting us from our true goal?"

Don't go out and cancel Christmas Eve services--at least not yet. But you might use a discussion with the questions above to think about this one aspect of your church's life as an example of how you may be distracted by those things that are not at the heart of your ministry. And, be kind to your pastor and family on Christmas Eve; see if there is some way you can help them make that evening at least a little bit more normal.

*Sue Krummel*

---

## *Youth and Family News*

(See the next page for the Sunday School Schedule)

### ***Reminder: All Church Picnic***

Please remember that on Sunday, September 7, The Office of Youth and Family Ministries invites the First Presbyterian Church family and the New Mission Church of God 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 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. If your last name begins with:

*A-L bring a dessert*

*M-Z bring a side dish*

Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided.

A caravan will leave from church after the Sunday service to go to Jim Edgar. We will begin eating at 1 p.m. Maps will be provided for those who are going on their own. **Please talk to 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.

---

### ***Casual Sunday!!***

Please feel free to dress in your casual picnic wear for worship on Sunday, September 7. We'll be attending the church picnic afterward and would like everyone to dress for comfort!

---

#### Youth and Family Ministry Contact Information:

Chris Young

217-341-8487

[sjroutdoors@comcast.net](mailto:sjroutdoors@comcast.net)

Aasne Daniels

[aasne@lincolnschurch.org](mailto:aasne@lincolnschurch.org)

---

## THIS – N – THAT

*The Weekly YogaFit* classes will be starting again on Thursday, September 4, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Classes run continuously with breaks for holiday at a cost of 6 classes for \$50. The instructor, Cris Martin, uses a punch card system so you pay only for classes you attend. Come join us for strengthening, stretching and serenity. For more information call or e-mail Cris at 793-1933 or [cmartinized@hotmail.com](mailto:cmartinized@hotmail.com).

---

*The Final Chapel Service* of the year will be held on Sunday, August 31 at 8:15 a.m.

---

*A Short Retreat* will be held on October 8-12. A group will be going to Three Rivers, Michigan to St. Gregory's Abbey, an Episcopal Benedictine community. Talk with LuAnn Atkins if you are interested in knowing more. Phone 498-7987. All are welcome.

---

### *People in the News: Springfield Journal Register*

Christine A. Anderson, daughter of Rev. David A. Anderson and Riitta A. Anderson in Springfield, earned a Ph.D. in British History from the University of Kansas in 2008. Her dissertation entitled, “(Per)Forming Female Politics: The Making of the ‘Modern Woman’ in London, 1890-1914” explores how the experiences of living and working within the cultural environment of the city shaped a modern femininity and raised a political consciousness among middle-class women. She currently resides in Lawrence, KS and is an Adjunct Professor in both the Department of History and the Department of Humanities & Western Civilization at the University of Kansas.

---

## **Youth Sunday School Schedule**

### **September/October Joseph Living in a Land of Many Colors**

	<b>K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>
<b>9/7</b>	Windsock of Many Colors Art Artisan Market	Dirt Pudding Cooking Kitchen/Fellowship Hall
<b>9/14</b>	Dirt Pudding Cooking Kitchen/Fellowship Hall	Windsock of Many Colors Art Artisan Market
<b>9/21</b>	“God Will Make It Turn Out For the Best” Drama The Coliseum	“Stepping Stones Board Game” Game Discovery Den
<b>9/28</b>	“Stepping Stones Board Game” Game Discovery Den	“God Will Make It Turn Out For The Best” Drama The Coliseum
<b>10/5</b>	“Joseph’s Reunion” Movie Simon’s Studio	Egyptian Times Newspaper Computers Chronicles’ Cyber Cafe
<b>10/12</b>	Egyptian Times Newspaper Computers Chronicles’ Cyber Café	“Joseph’s Reunion” Movie Simon’s Studio

Join us for Sunday school beginning at 9:00 a.m. with music in The Coliseum, located in the education wing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. If you would like to volunteer to teach, please call Aasne or Chris at the church.

## **Second Saturday Supper Club News**

We have an opportunity to travel to the Morning Star Mercantile Café for dinner on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. The restaurant is located in Salisbury off of Route 97. In order to go, we must guarantee that at least 30 people will attend due to the fact that they are normally closed on Saturdays. If you are interested in going, please sign up by mid-September on the sheet located on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

---

## **Executive Presbyter's Perspective** **Rev. Susan Krummel**

A few weeks ago, I attended a very contemporary worship service at one of our churches. It was held on Saturday evening and featured the kind of music that I used to hear a lot and hardly ever hear anymore. When you have preteen and teenage children who are in the car with you quite often, you pretty much know what the current popular music is. But, an amazing thing happens when they grow up and move away. You get to be in charge of the radio/CDplayer in your own vehicle! So, I can tell you the lyrics to lots of Broadway music and could recite the plot of the latest book on CD to which I have listened, but I am not really aware of what used to be called top-40 music (is it still called that?)

All of that aside, I really enjoyed the service. The music of one of the most popular contemporary bands was presented very well by local musicians. There was a very coherent flow to the order of worship. I knew that I was worshipping in a Presbyterian setting and the pipe organ was even used as keyboard on some of the numbers. (I hope the people who raised money for that organ 100 years ago because it represented the kind of popular music that was played in those days to accompany movies would be happy that it can still be put to contemporary use.)

I wondered as I sat in that very traditional worship space in the midst of a congregation in which I represented kind of the middle of the age demographic how the pastors had pulled this off. How had they gotten very Presbyterian people on their session to give them permission to do this? One of the pastors told me that is part of the secret of the way they are turning that church around. They are not always as cautious about asking permission as they might be. Sometimes, as you have probably heard, it is better to ask for forgiveness than permission!

But then I saw what I think is the key to their success. We had communion by intinction and the other pastor had been helping with the music, so she walked to the back of the line to receive communion (it was being served by elders.) There was an elderly woman at the end of the line, clearly a member of that congregation. When her pastor approached her, the woman was greeted with a very warm handshake and smile and a few softly spoken words. The woman's face just lit up. It was clear that these pastors have established the kind of warm relationships with the members of their congregation that allow them to launch new programs for which they have probably not been forced to ask for forgiveness very often.

We are talking a lot these days about how to reawaken our sleepy, staid, sometimes sad churches. Perhaps these two pastors have hit on a winning combination: the nerve to try new things (along with the gifts to do it well) and the warm pastoral relationships that encourage the people they are leading to come along and see this new thing into which God is leading them.

I hope you have a good week.

Sue Krummel

# September Birthdays

**2**

Fred Hoffmann

**3**

Elizabeth Myers

**4**

Cori Stuart

**5**

Susanne Day

**6**

Nathaniel Koschmann

**7**

Shane Padget  
Randy Schick

**8**

Karl Menninger  
Andi Purnell  
Chris Slater

**11**

Jeff Anderson  
Aaron Childers

**13**

Tom DeLay  
Geoff Turner  
JoAnn Wehrle

**15**

Stuart Cappellin  
Carolee Drennan

**17**

Mick Bernasek  
Charlie Hammond

**18**

Susan Harris

**19**

Jennifer Miller  
Linda Rakers  
Lillian Stevens

**22**

Skylar Janik

**23**

Pam Hayes

**24**

Avery Kerns  
Kelly Ruff

**25**

Bernadine Sorensen  
Suanne Tuttle  
Abigail Leigh Wilson

**26**

Jacqueline Russell

**27**

Clark Cunningham  
Claire Marie Larkin  
Kimberly Tucker  
Chuck Watson

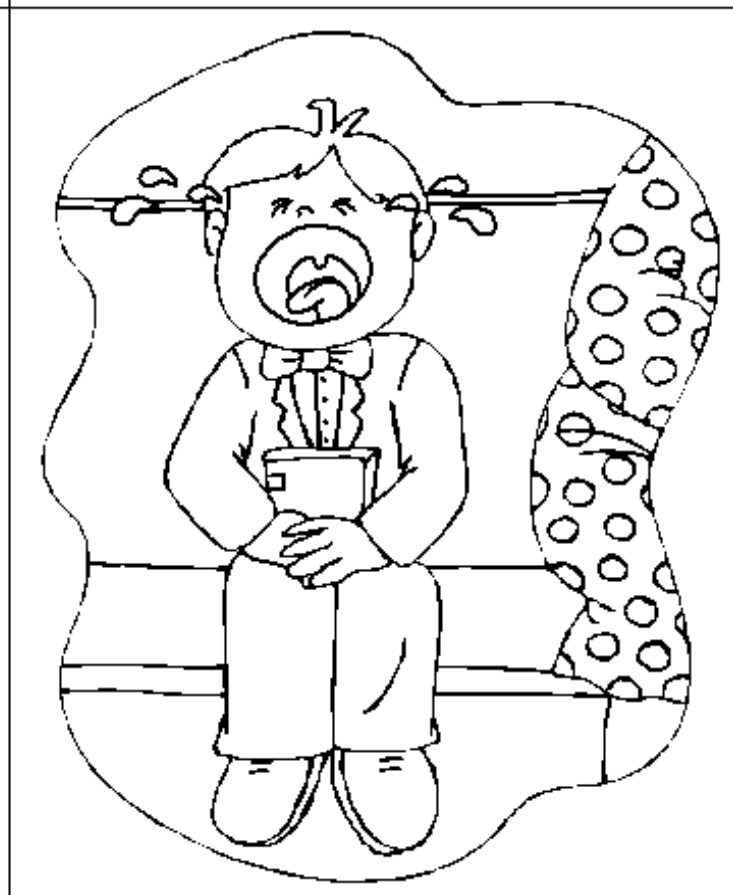
**29**

Kay McKee

**30**

Mike Atkins  
James Fenimore  
Jeanette Huston

**Mind your manners!** Circle the pictures that show people minding their manners in church.  
Cross out the picture of the person who isn't.



*All activities take place in the church unless otherwise noted*

## **September 2008**

### **1\*MONDAY**

Church and Office Closed for Labor Day

### **2\*TUESDAY**

7:30 a.m. – Bible Study Section II

### **3\*WEDNESDAY**

5:30 p.m. – Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. – Midweek Gathering

6:30 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### **4\*THURSDAY**

5:30 p.m. – Yoga Class

7:00 p.m. – Deacons Meeting

### **6\*SATURDAY**

8:00 p.m. – Classical Guitar Society Concert

### **7\*SUNDAY – CASUAL SUNDAY**

8:15 a.m. – Chapel Worship Service

8:45 a.m. – Nursery Opens

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

10:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

**12:00 p.m. – All Church Picnic**

### **8\*MONDAY**

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

### **9\*TUESDAY**

7:30 a.m. – Bible Study Section II

10:30 a.m. – Elder Hostel

### **10\*WEDNESDAY**

5:30 p.m. – Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. – Midweek Gathering

6:30 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### **11\*THURSDAY**

5:30 p.m. – Yoga Class

7:00 p.m. – Mission Committee Meeting

### **12\*FRIDAY**

7:30 p.m. – Thomas & Andre Drury Recital

### **14\*SUNDAY**

8:15 a.m. – Chapel Worship Service

8:45 a.m. – Nursery Opens

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

10:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

11:30 a.m. – Fellowship Hour

### **15\*MONDAY**

7:00 p.m. – Faith Circle

### **16\*TUESDAY**

7:30 a.m. – Bible Study Section II

### **17\*WEDNESDAY**

5:30 p.m. – Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. – Midweek Gathering

6:30 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### **18\*THURSDAY**

5:30 p.m. – Yoga Class

7:00 p.m. – Session Meeting

### **21\*SUNDAY**

8:15 a.m. – Chapel Worship Service

8:45 a.m. – Nursery Opens

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

10:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

11:30 a.m. – Fellowship Hour

### **23\*TUESDAY**

7:30 a.m. – Bible Study Section II

### **24\*WEDNESDAY**

5:30 p.m. – Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. – Midweek Gathering

6:30 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### **25\*THURSDAY**

5:30 p.m. – Yoga Class

### **27\*SATURDAY**

6:00 p.m. – U2 Eucharist Worship Service

### **28\*SUNDAY**

8:15 a.m. – Chapel Worship Service

8:45 a.m. – Nursery Opens

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

10:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

11:30 a.m. – Fellowship Hour

### **30\*TUESDAY**

7:30 a.m. – Bible Study Section II