



the Lantern

March 1, 2007

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the Lantern Published by

First Presbyterian
Church, 201 S. High
Street, Kirksville, MO
63501

(660) 665-4473

newsletter@presbykv.org

News from the Presbytery

The Missouri Union Presbytery held its Stated Meeting on February 10. Here are some highlights from that meeting submitted by Paula Presley who attended:

- **Bruce Berry resigns as General Presbyter.** Bruce Berry has tendered his resignation from the post of General Presbyter, effective March 30. Many commissioners made a tribute to Bruce's ministry for the past ten years. They thanked Bruce for his numerous contributions to the work and life of their congregations. Ministers expressed their appreciation for Bruce's assistance and support of their ministry. Rev. Diane Miller, Moderator of the Presbytery, closed the celebration of Rev. Berry's service with a prayer for Bruce, Linda, and the Presbytery.
- **Mission Teams report.** The Mission Teams report included presentations on some of the work being accomplished. The Criminal Justice Mission Team reported on their programs

helping currently incarcerated prisoners, their families, and former prisoners. The Disaster Mission Team reported on their successful mission trip to New Orleans, January 28-February 3. The group of 20 participants worked on several individual houses and a local church that is preparing to host future mission workers. The forecast now is that assistance to help the hurricane recovery will continue for several years. The Church and Society Mission Team brought commissioners up to date on Missourians that have lost Medicaid coverage.

- **New Website.** The Presbytery's website was presented by Joe Weston and **Greg Marshall.** While still a work in progress, it is very close to providing an interactive website that will be available for all churches to enter important information to be communicated throughout the Presbytery. Regional Training sessions are being planned to train a website representative from each church.

And don't forget: Greg set up a website for First Pres., Kirksville. Go to www.presbykv.org)

Library Survey

Over the years, many First Presbyterian members and friends have put in many hours organizing and reorganizing the church library.

Responsibility for the library falls under the Christian Education Committee, and they need your help in determining the best way to proceed. Enclosed with this month's newsletter is a survey that the Committee asks you to fill out and return to the church either by folding, applying a stamp, and

mailing it, or by dropping it off at the church office.

The Committee asks that you complete the survey and return it no later than March 18. Your help is much appreciated.





Annual Valentine's Dinner Success

This year's Valentine's dinner was a warm evening full of fellowship and good food. The dinner, held on Saturday, 2/17, at the home of Bob and Janis Keough, was attended by a lively crowd:

- Bob and Barbie Sanders,
- John and Jackie Settlege,
- Shannon Tanner,
- Mark Novinger,
- David and Pat Lintner,
- Danny and Ronnaug Bull,
- Scott and Carol Thatcher,

- Matt and Brenda Matheney, and
- John and Martha Rowe,

Appetizers were served in the Keough's recently renovated library, and an Italian dinner featuring lasagna, salad, and John Settlege's famous foccacia bread was enjoyed in the dining room.

Brownies, cupcakes, ice cream and chocolate dipped strawberries topped off the evening.

The Keoughs would like to thank everyone for coming, and they send a special thank you to Danny and Ronnaug for helping with the cleanup chores.



The Lantern is a monthly publication of the First Presbyterian Church, 201 S. High St., Kirksville, MO.

Phone: 660-665-4473.

Letters to the Editor, articles, photos and comments are all welcome. All letters must be signed; the newsletter may refuse to print any letter. All rights are reserved. No portion of this newsletter may be reprinted without the Editor's approval.

Submit articles by the 25th of the month to:

newsletter@presbykv.org

A Word of Thanks

Dear Friends

Thank you so much for the flowers and card in addition to your thoughts and prayers

during my time of surgery. I enjoy working with you and look forward to the rest of the year.

—Nancy Pennington

Mike's Page

Why Moving Might Be a Lenten Discipline...

I am beginning to wonder if moving will be my Lenten Discipline. Lent is a time for going through things, and I have been going through many physical things. I have unloaded all my books into the church office, and they are busy bickering amongst each other (again) about who's systematic theology is more coherent and cohesive; meanwhile the poets are reciting to each other and the fiction books are telling each other tales. I have also discovered many neckties deemed substandard by certain family members as well as old tee shirts and shorts that I wonder why I moved at all. The upside is that Elizabeth and I have not opened a box to discover garbage (one clergy friend of mine had this happen to him.)

I hope that during Lent you are able to "go through things" in your life as well, spiritual

things. Let me say that Lent is a special time of the church year to me and probably to you, too. Each year, I have a little conversation with myself about which I prefer, Advent or Lent. And I have never really resolved it. Right now, I think Lent is my favorite, but, come December, I might have another answer for you.

During Lent, some people "give up" something, a food or a bad habit, in order to recognize this liturgical season. Other people resolve to "take up" something, such as more community work, or a new discipline, such as exercise or reading a daily devotional. However you choose to mark Lent this year, I hope you are able to stick with your Lenten discipline. Do a little each day, working at it. If you fall down or forget about Lent, don't worry. Just get back up and keep going. May God prepare us for Christ's Resurrection and open us to that presence throughout Lent.

—Mike

Opportunities for Mission

Looking for mission opportunities? There's no lack of opportunities for mission, both locally and nationally. Here are a just few for you to consider:

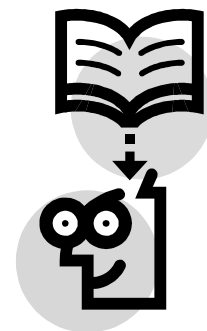
Shoes: The Kirksville Noon Rotary Club is asking for help from area churches to raise funds or collect pairs of new children's shoes for "Shoes for Orphan Souls." Rotary Clubs throughout northern Missouri are participating in this campaign, organized through Buckner Orphan Care International. Our local club's goal is 1000 pairs of new children's shoes!

In the past, the club has been able to buy new children's shoes for about \$5 per pair. No open shoes or sandals, please. Please consider participating by donating money or new shoes. Donations may be delivered to Rev. Mike McCormack or to the church

office. All donations need to be received by April 1, 2007.

Blankets: The Outreach Mission has identified a real need in our community and is asking for your help in fulfilling that need. In these cold months, many in our community need warm blankets. If you have any blankets that you can donate to the mission store located at 301 N. Elson, please drop them off between the hours of 9am and 4:15pm Tuesday through Saturday.

Stubbins Home: First Presbyterian will be taking up a special offering on March 18 to benefit the Stubbins Family and Youth Center in Moberly, MO. This facility houses at risk youth. Money is needed to help replace worn furnishings in the home including:



Mike's Office Hours

MONDAY: 8:30am-Noon; 1pm-5pm

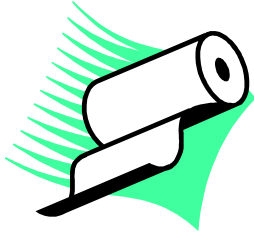
TUESDAY: 8:30am-Noon

WEDNESDAY: 8:30am-Noon

THURSDAY: 8:30am-Noon; 1pm-5pm

FRIDAY & SATURDAY: No office hours

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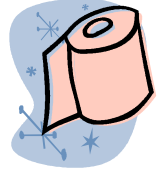
(Continued from page 3)

carpet/flooring in 24 bedrooms, bedroom furniture in 24 bedrooms, and living room and dining room furniture in 8 cottages. Please give generously.

Paper Shower. The Presbyterian Women of First Presbyterian are sponsoring a "paper shower" for Victims' Support Ser-

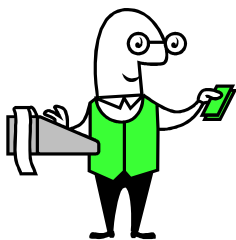
vices.

All kinds of paper products are needed, including paper napkins, paper towels, toilet paper, and reams of copy paper. The collection for the shower will take place on Sunday, May 13, Mothers' Day.



Financial Report, 31 January 2007

	Month Income	Month Expense	YTD In- come	YTD Ex- pense
Giving & Other Revenue	\$11,343		\$11,343	
Restricted Program Transfers	1,416		1,416	
Designated Income/Expense	678	\$485	678	\$485
Direct Mission		1,200		1,200
Pastoral Leadership		5,406		5,406
Worship & Music		724		724
Christian Education	40	354	40	354
Administrative Support	11	5,187	11	5,187
House & Grounds		2,985		2,985
General Needs		28		28
Campus Ministry		61		61
Membership Shepherding		53		53
Community Ministries	124	14	124	14
Rollins Ministry	2,493	1,721	2,493	1,721
Westminster House Ministry	<u>0</u>	<u>298</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>298</u>
Total	<u>\$16,105</u>	<u>\$18,516</u>	<u>\$16,105</u>	<u>\$18,516</u>
Undesignated Cash Checking Account: \$11,170.12				

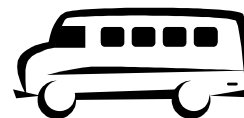


Presbyterian Campus Fellowship on the Move!

The PCF crowd is on the move! February kicked off with a retreat, held at the St. Joseph Retreat Center in Edina, where the attendees spent an intense 24 hours sharing their faith journeys and exploring and planning for their future together as a group. The PCFers formulated a mission statement as a first step toward becoming an official Truman organization. The weekend was filled with great discussions, fun, and, as is habit with this group: food!

As a result of the brainstorming efforts while on the retreat, PCF is planning for the future, including adding evening meetings for student-led faith studies in addition to

into making a loop around campus on Sunday mornings. The "Guilt Van" (so



The First Presbyterian Guilt Van is Coming for You!



Attendees of the PCF Retreat. From top left: Matt Carlson, Tracey Blasingame, Sam Scott, Carrie Ostrowski, Erin Gill, Hannah Feldner, Emily Ward, Cheryl Gracey, Shannon Tanner, Jennifer Hurst, Chris Boning, Elizabeth, Noah, and Mike McCormack.

the current Sunday meeting time. Specific plans are still in the works. Also, in order to offer an easier way to get to church, the church van and driver have been cajoled



PCFers play the HaHa Game, letting off steam after long hours of brainstorming.

dubbed by the students) should encourage more students to get to church each week!

Supper on Sunday continues to be a core activity for the group and includes not only food, but also discussions led by Pastor Mike, Bible studies led by Cheryl, and lots of conversation. If you'd like to help feed these starving students by cooking a meal, please contact Cheryl Gracey, CM Committee chair. Thanks for your continued support!

Matt and Noah deep in conversation.



Lectionary Readings

• **Mar. 4 (Second Sunday In Lent)**

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalms 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 13:31-35

• **Mar. 11 (Third Sunday In Lent)**

Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalms 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

• **Mar. 18 (Fourth Sunday In Lent)**

Joshua 5:9-12
Psalms 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

• **Mar. 25 (Fifth Sunday In Lent)**

Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalms 126
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8



Food of the Month:

Canned Fruit



March Events

Sundays

- 3/4—Worship, 9:30am; Fellowship/Coffee-time, 10:30am, Fellowship Hall; Sunday School, 11am; Presbyterian Campus Fellowship, 5:30pm, Westminster House.
- 3/11—Worship, 9:30am; **Second Sunday Brunch**, Fellowship Hall; Sunday School, 11am; Presbyterian Campus Fellowship, 5:30pm, Westminster House
- 3/18—Worship, 9:30am, **Special Offering to benefit the Stubbins children's home.** ; Fellowship/Coffee-time, 10:30am, Fellowship Hall; Sunday School, 11am; Presbyterian Campus Fellowship, 5:30pm, Westminster House.
- 3/25—Worship, 9:30am; Fellowship/Coffee-time, 10:30am, Fellowship Hall; Sunday School, 11am; Presbyterian Campus Fellowship, 5:30pm, Westminster House. **Service at Manor Care, 3pm.**

Mondays

- 3/12, 3/19, 3/26—Sr. High PYF, 7pm, Travers Room

Tuesdays

- 3/13—Session and Deacons Meetings, 7pm, Fellowship Hall
- 3/27—Christian Education Committee Meeting, 7pm
- 3/27—**Presbyterian Women's Meeting**, 7pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays

- 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28—Mid-Week Bible Study, 1pm, at a member's home (call the office for more information)
- 3/14, 3/21, 3/28—Operation J.O.Y./Mid-High PYF, 3:15pm 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/25—Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7pm, Choir Room

Thursdays

- **Budget & Finance Committee**, 1:30pm, Primary Room

Fridays

- 3/9—**Parent's Night Out**, 6pm, contact the church office for details.

Saturdays

- 3/10—Presby Seniors, 9am, Ponderosa Restaurant

BIRTHDAYS:

- 1—David Lintner
- 2—Abram Farley, Thaddeus Farley
- 5—Francis, "Bucky," Walter, Pat Lintner
- 8—Fran Norman
- 9—Colleen Hamilton, Diane Rhodes
- 10—Audrea Lyons
- 12—Mary Giovannini

15—Nathan Ferrell

23—Bob Sanders

24—Megan Matheny

28—William King

ANNIVERSARIES

23—Charles & Vicki Franklin

31—Eddie & Mary Hodges



Memorials

Two memorial dedications took place in February:

Gifts in memory of Carl E. Link (1912-2005), Ralph H. Sees (1918-2006), and Stephanie M. Keith (1924-2006) made possible the beautiful renovation of the pastor's office. It is with great appreciation and joy that we honor these beloved members for their devotion to this church and to the Glory of God.

A two-sided 4' x 6' chalkboard/dry erase board has been purchased with gifts made in memory of Gerald Jones, who died April 12, 2002. This board will be used during Bible study lessons, including the Lenten Study to be given by Rev. McCormack. Gerald Jones was a faithful member of our church for many years. He performed many duties in the church, including service as a Deacon.



Notes and Reminders

Youth Musical

Don't miss *The Music Machine*, the musical to be presented by the Children's Choir on Sunday, April 22, during the 9:30 worship.



Come join the fun as we learn about the fruit of the Spirit through song and dialogue!

Covenant Point Camp

Did you know that:

- All the cabins at Covenant Point now have heat and air-conditioning?
- The 2007 camping season schedule is already out?
- You can plan ahead to attend camp this summer?

Well, it's all true! Why not give serious thought to attending camp and get it on your summer schedule before it's too full? Contact Ronnaug Bull for more information and for brochures that include the dates for camp.



Vacation Bible School

Speaking of summer, we already know the theme for this year's Vacation Bible School: *Avalanche Ranch: A Wild Ride Through God's Word*.

Here are some more details:

- Date: July 8-11
- Time: 9am-12pm
- Place: First United Methodist Church
- Who: Children ages 3 through entering grade 5
- What: Each day will include Bible story, memory verse, snacks, cool songs, games, and mission project

Boys and girls, ask your mom or dad if you can come! Hope to see you there!



Habitat for Humanity Thanks You!

Did you know that a portion of all money contributed to the Kirksville Area Habitat for Humanity is tithed to Habitat for Humanity International?

When small contributions are added together they can make a huge difference. How exciting to know that we can help others around the world with the money that is contributed locally to the Kirksville Area Habitat Chapter. The Truman University Affiliate also tithes to HFHI.

HFHI recently published this thank you to all those

who have contributed:

U.S. affiliated organizations: Thank You for your tithes!

Please accept a huge thank you from HFHI for your combined calendar year 2006 tithe contributions of \$13.5 million. Most important, though, is that you partnered with more than 3,200 families outside the U.S. in the building of their homes.

Help Wanted: The Hospitality Committee of the Board of Deacons seeks friendly people to help with greeting and ushering in 2007. Contact Teri Haman or Janis Keough to volunteer, or sign up on the sheet in the South stairwell leading to the Narthex. Thanks in advance!



**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH (USA)**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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KIRKSVILLE, MO 63501
(660) 665-4473**

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