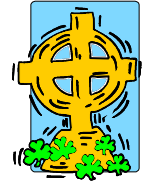


MARCH 2006



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Bible Study, 1:00 PM Operation J.O.Y., 3:30 PM Mid-High PYF, 3:30 PM Choir, 7:00 PM	2	3	4
5 Lenten Movie Series, 3:00 PM	6 Sr. High PYF, 7:30 PM	7	8 Bible Study, 1:00 PM Operation J.O.Y., 3:30 PM Mid-High PYF, 3:30 PM Choir, 7:00 PM	9 Budget & Finance, 1:30 PM	10	11 Presby Seniors, 9:00 AM, Ponderosa
12 Second Sunday Potluck, 10:45 AM Lenten Movie Series, 3:00 PM Truman's Spring Break	13 Sr. High PYF, 7:30 PM Truman's Spring Break	14 Session/Deacons, 7:00 PM Truman's Spring Break	15 Bible Study, 1:00 PM Choir, 7:00 PM Truman's Spring Break	16 Truman's Spring Break	17 Truman's Spring Break	18 Truman's Spring Break
19 Lenten Movie Series, 3:00 PM	20 Personnel Committee, 7:00 PM Sr. High PYF, 7:30 PM	21	22 Bible Study, 1:00 PM Operation J.O.Y., 3:30 PM Mid-High PYF, 3:30 PM Choir, 7:00 PM	23	24	25
26 Lenten Movie Series, 3:00 PM Campus Meal, 5:30 PM	27 Sr. High PYF, 7:30 PM	28 CE Committee, 7:00 PM Presbyterian Women, 7:00 PM	29 Bible Study, 1:00 PM Operation J.O.Y., 3:30 PM Mid-High PYF, 3:30 PM Choir, 7:00 PM	30	31	



the LANTERN

First Presbyterian Church
Kirksville, Missouri

March 2006

In This Issue

- + *Presbyterian Handbook* Available
- + Photo Directory Coming Soon
- + Start Thinking about VBS
- + Notes from the Pastor
- + News from the PNC
- + Report from the Presbytery
- + New Church Web and E-mail



March Food:



Corn!

First Presbyterian Church
201 S. High Street
Kirksville, MO 63501
(660) 665-4473

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KIRKSVILLE, MO



Get Involved at 1st Pres.!

Sunday Services

Sundays at 9:30 am

Coffee and fellowship after service.

Adult and Kids' Sunday School

Sundays at 10:45 am

Senior High PYF

Mondays at 7:30 pm

Operation J.O.Y. and Mid-High PYF

Wednesdays at 3:30 pm

Campus Meal

On hiatus for March

Adult Choir

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Presby Seniors

Saturday, March 11, 9:00 am

Meet at Ponderosa

Presbyterian Women

Tuesday, March 28, 7:00 pm

Kids, Come to VBS!

Boys, girls and parents mark your calendar for July 9–12. Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held in our church, First Presbyterian, this year.

The theme this year is *Fiesta!* Where kids are fired up about Jesus. Experience high-energy, faith-filled fun! Watch for more details on the church bulletin boards and in *the LANTERN*.

the LANTERN

Publisher: First Presbyterian Church

Editor: Scott Thatcher

thatcher@truman.edu

The Presbyterian Handbook Available Now

Have you ever tried to figure out how church culture works? Ever been in the dark when someone mentions John Calvin, or wanted to know how Presbyterians understand evangelism? Or perhaps on a lighter side, have you ever needed to know how to respond when someone sits in *your* pew?

If you answered “yes” to any of the questions above, the perfect companion book is here! According to its preface, “*The Presbyterian Handbook* is prepared in a style similar to other Survivor’s Guide books, like the Boy Scout Manual. It provides historical and theological information about Presbyterian beliefs alongside fun-

filled facts and practical tips on being a churchgoing follower of Jesus Christ. The book presents a combination of vast truths, complex details, and bits of humor about Presbyterian understanding of the Christian life.”

The Christian Education Committee encourages everyone to read this book during Lent (although you will probably have most of it read the first day).

The books are available in the narthex and in Fellowship Hall. Or call the church office, and we will reserve a copy for you. The Christian Education Committee suggests a \$10 donation because you *will* want to keep this book.

Church Photo Directory Coming Soon!

Session and Deacons are planning a new, informal, church photo directory. During the next few months, we will provide several opportunities for church members to have their photo taken during the coffee hour after church. These photos will be informal, not taken by an outside photographer, with the goal of producing a low-cost photo directory that can be updated frequently. Due to the wonders of digital photography, everyone will have a chance to OK photos immediately.

We will also accept previously-taken digital or print photographs that you would like to provide for the

directory. Digital photographs can be copied, and print photographs will be scanned and returned. That way, if you have a snapshot of you or your family that you especially like, you will be able to have complete control of the picture we use! One caveat: due to copyright restrictions, we can’t accept previously-taken professional photographs.

So, during Sundays in March, dress your best, comb your hair (or wear your favorite hat), and look for the directory photo station!



the LANTERN is a monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church in Kirksville, Missouri. Letters to the Editor, articles, photos and comments are all welcome. All letters must be signed; the newsletter can refuse to print any letter. All rights are reserved. No portion of this newsletter may be reprinted without the Editor’s approval.

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Kirksville, Missouri 63501

Call or e-mail to

(660) 665-4473

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Mr. Lou's 2 Cents for Lent

In my early years of life, and even as I matured, I looked upon the Lenten Season as a time for *doing without something that I really enjoyed*. For some it was something to eat—like chocolate, cookies, donuts. For others, quit smoking during that season or quit buying the Budweiser. Somehow, this was supposed to remind us of our God relationship and of what He did for us. Hopefully, all who participated in this Lenten exercise would enter into Holy Week with their God relationship strengthened and ready to celebrate the high holy day of Christendom—EASTER—with joy and thanksgiving.

I would like to propose something different to you this year. Rather than doing away with something, let's ADD something during the Lenten Season!!

LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES!

Starting March 5, Mrs. Lou and I will be in Fellowship Hall around 3 pm, with a new 27-inch TV, popcorn popping, coffee and soft drinks available (and any other “goodies” folks wish to share). We will watch a movie and then discuss it for as long as you wish. These will all be G/PG-rated films, so we encourage the whole family to come. (Nursery will be available for the very young.)

Here's the line-up as I see it now:

- March 5 – *O God!*
Johnny Denver and George Burns.
- March 12 – *Manna from Heaven!*
You can read about this one in *Presbyterians Today*.
- March 19 – *Shadowlands*
Anthony Hopkins. The story of C.S. Lewis' acceptance of Christ.
- March 26 – *North Avenue Irregulars*
Golden oldie. Really fun, but provocative.
- April 2 – *Luther*
Helps us to understand our Protestant background.
- April 9 – *Chronicles of Narnia*
We may have to settle for my animated version—still good!

There is always room for modification. In other words, I'm open to suggestions. Let's make this a fruitful and thoughtful Lenten Season!

Mr. Lou

Lectionary Readings

Wednesday, March 1

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 or Isaiah 58:1–12

Psalm 51:1–17

2 Corinthians 5:20B–6:10

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

Sunday, March 5

First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 9:8–17

Psalm 25:1–10

1 Peter 3:18–22

Mark 1:9–15

Sunday, March 12

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16

Psalm 22:23–31

Romans 4:13–25

Mark 8:31–38

Sunday, March 19

Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1–17

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 1:18–25

John 2:13–22

Sunday, March 26

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4–9

Psalm 107:1–3, 17–22

Ephesians 2:1–10

John 3:14–21

Pastoral Office Hours

Pastor Lou is currently traveling to Kirksville on one day of the week other than Sunday, but that day varies. Please call the church office to find out when he will be in.

Elders and Deacons will also continue to help with pastoral care duties during the interim period.



QUICK FAITH- BUILDERS

Create a Family Devotion Basket by assembling a Bible and a book in a basket. The book could be Christian poetry, one of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books, a children's Bible story book, etc. Each day—or even just three times a week—gather the family and read from the Bible or other Christian books. After reading, discuss the reading and close in prayer.

We challenge you to try this for the month of March and then evaluate it. We know you will feel blessed, and you parents will know you are having a direct spiritual influence on your kids.

[*Quick Faith-Builders* are found in *Children's Ministry Magazine*, Jan/Feb 2005 issue, pages 78–81.]

Violet Williams Memorial

The new glider/rocker chair in the children's nursery is given today in loving memory of Violet G. Williams (1900-2003). Violet was a member of this church for many years. Her love for children was known to all. May this memorial gift be to the Glory of God.

Notes of Thanks

Dear Congregation,

It's really nice when caring people do special things—Thank you very much.

Georgette Achimbi



Above: Jana Arabas (and Jeff, not pictured), Carol Thatcher, Mrs. Lou, Rev. Lou, Scott Thatcher and Paula Presley join the Bulls, the Keoughs and the Lintners for the Valentine's Day Progressive Dinner. See our web page www.presbykv.org for more pictures!

Valentine Dinner Offers Fellowship and Fun

A little rain and a few wet spots didn't keep 13 brave souls from attending the annual Valentine Dinner sponsored by the Christian Education Committee on February 11. Though the weather was a challenge, the fellowship and fun far out-weighed the snow flurries.

The Keoughs prepared a table filled with scrumptious appetizers. The candlelight in the dining room and study, including candles in the fireplace I might add, was very romantic. (Now why didn't I think of candles—no one could have noticed if I had dusted or not!) Anyway, it was lovely, and everyone started getting acquainted.

Next, we traveled to the Arabas home. Everyone loved the huge family room, and the Arabas parents love it, too, because it's a great place for their three children to play. The

lettuce salad with a variety of dressings was just the thing we needed before the main course.

The main course was held at the Bull home. Now, how do I write this since it was my home? Do I say the meal was delicious? Do I say the spaghetti was done to perfection? Hm-m... At any rate, I know everyone survived the meal with no one needing his or her stomach pumped. So that's a good sign. ☺

And then came dessert. Oh, my goodness, what a wonderful choice the Thatchers had for us—key lime pie or pecan pie. Now how do you choose? Everyone *did* choose, and it was all delicious and the perfect ending of our evening.

A big thank-you goes to our hosts and hostesses for a very lovely evening.

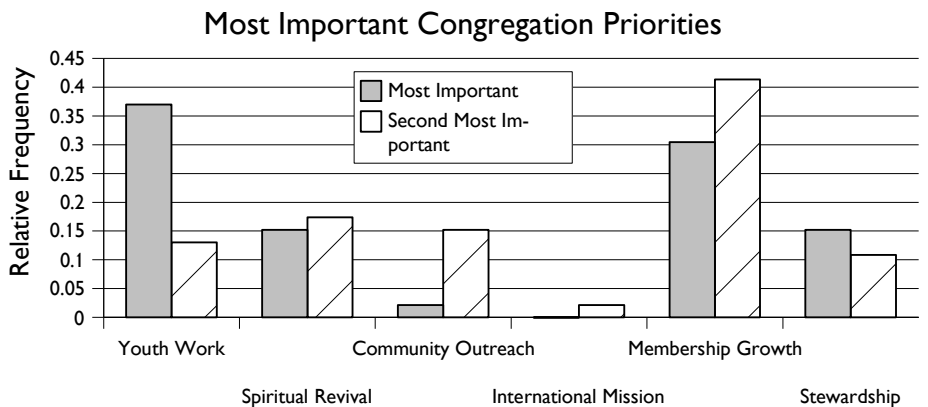
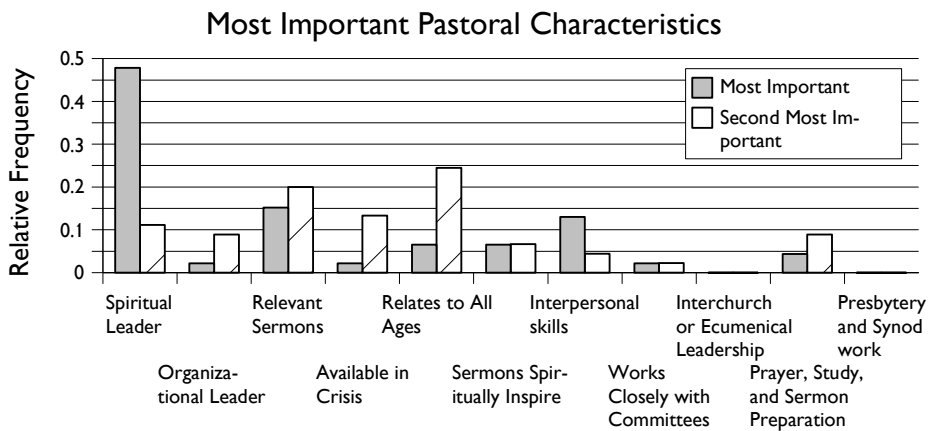
Ronnaug

Pastor Nominating Committee Begins Next Phase of Work

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has completed its congregational survey and has begun work on the next phase of its mission: the Church Information Form (CIF). While responses to the survey are still awaiting a more detailed analysis, some initial results can be found in the graphs below. The graphs show the percentage of respondents who identified each pastoral characteristic or congregation priority as “Most Important” or “Second Most Important.”

Perhaps not surprisingly, it seems clear that finding a pastor who will serve as the spiritual leader of our church is very important to many members. More interesting is the strong emphasis placed on youth work by our congregation. Relating to all ages was the most common “secondary” pastoral characteristic, and youth work was listed most often as our most important congregational priority. Membership growth was also listed as a top congregational priority. Look for more detailed information from the survey in the weeks ahead.

The CIF, which is the next order of business for the committee, begins by asking for factual information about our church. It continues with descriptions of the mission of the church, gifts possessed by the congregation, and theological or social issues reflected in our ministry. The final section asks us to give our pastor’s job description, as well as a list of desired characteristics in a new pastor. Look for more information from the committee in the weeks ahead.



Report on the Missouri Union Presbytery Mtg.

John and Martha Rowe attended the Missouri Union Presbytery (MUP) meeting on February 4, and filed this report.

General Presbyter, Rev. Bruce Berry, reported that the financial condition of the Presbytery was good this past year. He said that Mexico, LaPlata, and Kirksville had Pastor Nominating Committees working. He also announced that his “membership challenge” for 2006 is a net increase of two for each congregation.

Interim Camp Director, Rev. Rob Burns, reported that electricity is being installed at each cabin at Covenant Point so that air conditioning and heating units can be put in each cabin. The roads to the lake and the play area are being improved.

The Continuing Education Event was on the subject of homosexuality. Presenters gave background on how we got to this point in our denomination’s deliberations and a presentation on the Bible passages that both inform and confuse. Speakers also presented both sides of the debate on ordination of homosexuals.

A meaningful worship service was conducted by Rev. Diane Miller and Rev. Larry Wheeler.

The Presbytery meeting continued with reports from various committees. The Disaster Assistance Committee announced that our Presbytery will be sending a team of nine men and seven women to Long Beach, Mississippi, on February 19. The team needs the use of a van for a week. Another team is being formed for April 23–29.

*Submitted by John Rowe
Edited for the Newsletter*

New Church E-mail and Web Address

Thanks to Greg Marshall, we now have a new church web address and e-mail addresses! While our web hosting is still provided by Presbyterian Church online, the old web page address was just too long to type. We now have our own domain name:

www.presbykv.org.

Because our old church e-mail address was tied to our internet service provider, the change to broadband internet at the church has necessitated a change to our e-mail address as well. The good news is that we control the new e-mail address. To contact Danny and Ronnaug, just send e-mail to

office@presbykv.org

Soon, we should also have addresses for the pastor and e-mail lists for Session and Deacons.

Church DSL Installed

Church offices have now been wired for broadband internet access. Greg Marshall, with help from Scot Newbold of Truman's Information Technology Services, recently spent a weekend making the appropriate connections and running necessary cables.

Greg reports that hooking up the DSL service with a multi-line phone system was a learning experience. The toughest part of the job was negotiating the transition from the 20-year-old part of our building to the 100-year-old part of our building.

We now need your ideas about how best to use this new level of connectivity!



Do You Remember Us?

These postcards from Kirksville's past were given to me a while back. Unfortunately, they were put in an envelope marked "Bloskovich," but they weren't given to me by the Bloskoviches.

If these postcards belong to you, please let me know, and they will be returned. Thanks!

Scott Thatcher



Congratulations! March Birthdays...



David Lintner
Abram Farley
Thaddeus Farley
Francis Walter
Pat Lintner
Fran Norman
Colleen Hamilton
Diane Rhodes
Audrea Lyons
Mary Giovannini

Nathan Ferrell
Bob Sanders
Megan Matheny
William King
Lindsey Crabb
Peter McLean

... and Anniversaries

Charles & Vicki Franklin
Eddie & Mary Hodges



Notes From the Archives

Forty Years Ago this Month...

Presbyterian Women announced that they were collecting S & H Green Stamps and Betty Crocker Coupons in an effort to purchase a truck for Grande Mission work.

Summer preparations were also underway, including Vacation Bible School, "pioneer camps" for junior high youth at the Mark Twain State Park, and a "mission study tour and float conference" for senior high youth.

Thirty Years Ago this Month...

The congregation held a "Banner Service" celebrating the Book of Confessions. Banners were brought by Dr. Willard Heimbeck of Hannibal First Presbyterian Church. Reactions were positive, and a similar service involving the youth of the church was planned to focus on the plaques hanging in our church.

Twenty Years Ago this Month...

Session approved the continuation of the Westminster House residency program after hearing reports from Lin Twining, Shirley Schmidt and John Settlege. The reports highlighted the ministries carried out by the residents, as well as the deepened sense of Christian commitment felt by the youth.

Ten Years Ago this Month...

Marlow Ediger reported the publishing of "Teaching and Science and the Learner" in India's *The Progress of Education*. He offered his many canceled Indian stamps to any collectors in the church.

Ronnaug started her work in our church in January of 1996. In March, she wrote, "you have welcomed me with open arms and made me feel part of the ministry of First Presbyterian Church."

News from Session

- + Please remember to keep praying for the successful work of the PNC. They are Charles Gerdes, Mary Giovannini, Teri Haman, Kelvin Hodges, David Lintner, Greg Marshall and Brenda Matheny. They will be finding out what YOU think is important in the church and the minister, by going over the completed church surveys.
- + We are trying to contact people who have not been in church for some time. We need addresses for Gary and Cindy Dahms, June Fortney, and Ryojin and Laura Tamokoshi. Please call the office if you have any of these addresses.

News from the Deacons

- + Playground equipment for our planned outdoor play area has been selected. We will be working to raise the approximately \$1000 needed to begin creation of our play area. Look for a small fundraiser this month at the Second-Sunday potluck brunch.
- + Deacons are encouraging congregation members to take altar flowers to those who would appreciate them after the service. Fran Norman and Jackie Settlege will be helping to coordinate this effort and make sure that someone can appreciate the flowers every week. Bringing flowers is a good excuse to make a visit to those you know who can't make it to church!
- + As mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter, Deacons are preparing to start a new photo directory.

Financial Report through January 2006

	Monthly Totals		Year-to-Date	
	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
Giving & Other Revenue				
Restricted Program Transfer				
Designated Income/Expense				
Direct Mission				
Pastoral Leadership				
Worship & Music				
Christian Education				
Administrative				
House & Grounds				
General Needs				
Campus Ministry				
Membership Shepherding				
Community Ministries				
Rollins Ministry				
Westminster House Ministry				
Total				

NOW Checking Account: