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# *the LANTERN*

First Presbyterian Church  
Kirksville, Missouri

May 2006

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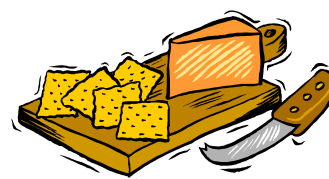
- + Get Ready for VBS
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*Mothers' Day  
Second-Sunday  
Brunch!*



*Sunday, May 14*

May Food:



Crackers!

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

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## Get Involved at 1st Pres.!

### Sunday Services

Sundays at 9:30 am

Coffee and fellowship after service.

### Adult and Kids' Sunday School

Sundays at 11:00 am

### Senior High PYF

Mondays at 7:30 pm

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

Resume in the fall.

### Campus Meal

Resumes in the fall.

### Adult Choir

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

### Presby Seniors

Saturday, May 13, 9:00 am

Meet at Ponderosa

### Presbyterian Women

Tuesday, May 30, 7:00 pm

## PNC Update

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) reports that they are finishing work on the Church Information Form, and will shortly be submitting that work to Session. Once the Church Information Form has been submitted, the next phase of the search process can begin.

*the LANTERN*

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Editor: Scott Thatcher

thatcher@truman.edu

## VBS Fiesta! Where kids are fired up about Jesus

Kids! Kids! Kids! Don't miss out on the fun during vbs this year! Tell your mom or dad you want to come, and see what they say. Here is all the information you need to tell your parents:



Fiesta! Where kids are fired up about Jesus

July 9–12, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon\*

First Presbyterian Church

Kids ages 3 through entering grade 6

\* Sunday the 9th will be a Family Carry-in Picnic in Fellowship Hall of First United Methodist Church. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday we'll meet from 9:00 AM to noon in First Presbyterian Church. Parents will need to make provisions for childcare since there will be no childcare available before 9:00 AM.

For more information, call Ronnaug at 665-4473 or email the church office at [office@presbykv.org](mailto:office@presbykv.org).

## Study Night at Westminster House

First Presbyterian will be hosting a study night for Truman students on Wednesday, May 10 (Reading Day), from 7:00 PM to 1:00 AM at Westminster House. Students will be invited to come study in a quiet environment outside the dorms. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

During the night, members of the congregation will provide an adult

presence, and the College Student S.O.S. group is also planning to have at least one member at the house throughout.

Congregation members can help with this study night by donating snacks and goodies or by talking with Cheryl Gracey to find out what else is needed.

## The Presbyterian Handbook

The Presbyterian Handbook has been enthusiastically received. The handbook includes all the information you need to be a Presbyterian (well, almost). The author has skillfully used humor throughout the book, but it is not an irreverent hu-

mor. Snowbirds will want to check this one out. Copies are in the narthex. The Christian Education Committee suggests a \$10 donation because you will want to keep this book.

*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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## Mr. Lou's 2¢ for May: *On the Power of Prayer*

There was an interesting article recently (I believe in *Newsweek*) and also a reference to the same article in the newest *Presbyterian Outlook*. In it, a group of researchers arrived at the conclusion that prayer has little or no effect on the healing process in humans.

Now if what they say is true, then a lot of the time we spend lifting up our concerns for our Brothers and Sisters would seem to be futile. All of those messages that Jan Hartje sends to us via e-mail re:prayer for folks we know and love are extraneous.

I don't know who the researchers talked to, but they sure didn't ask me what I thought. I have numerous stories I could share with them. Several of them are supported by medical opinion coming from attending physicians.

*For the first time in his life he could feel a  
change in his condition and a "power" at  
work in his body.*

The most recent came to my attention this past week. A good friend of ours (Mrs. Lou and yours truly) shared his experience with us during a phone conversation. Ron is an Elder in the Ottumwa Church. He and his wife, Jan, spend some time during the winter months in Ft. Myers. This year was not a good experience for them. In late February, he was diagnosed with an infected gall Bladder, but could not have surgery immediately because of a severe bronchitis. That had to be cleared up before anesthesia could be administered. During this waiting period, the gall bladder became more infected. When surgery finally was done, he developed some complications that were life threatening.

Jan sent out "the word" via e-mail to numerous folks, sharing her concern for Ron and asking for prayer. As we talked the other night, Ron witnessed that for the first time in his life he could feel a change in his condition and a "power" (as he expressed it) at work in his body. There was no "instant healing" or "take up your bed and walk"—but there was a definite spiritual and organic response to all the prayers that were being offered.

I cannot explain how and why our God works the way He does. That's why He is "Creator" and I am one of the "created." But I do know that our Lord does hear and answer our prayers in His own loving way. YOU CAN COUNT ON IT!!!

*May The Lord bless you and keep you safely in His arms!*

*Rev. Lou*

## Lectionary Readings

### May 7

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

### May 14

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

### May 21

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

### May 25

*Ascension of the Lord*

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47 or Psalm 93

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

### May 28

*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

## 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

Do your kids enjoy comics? Do you like comic books, too? Do you need help in finding heroes for your kids to emulate? Here is a list of good clean comics you might want to check out.

- + **DC Comics:** *Johnny DC*. Look for titles such as *Batman and the League of America*.
- + **Marvel Comics:** *Marvel Age*, classic (and innocent) plots from the 1960's. Look for *Marvel Age Spider-Man*.
- + **Archie Comics:** The continuing line of comics about the eternal teenagers from Riverside.
- + **Sonic, the Hedgehog & Powerpuff Girls:** A blend of whimsy and adventure. Adults don't get it, but kids love it.
- + **Shrek and The Incredibles:** Both have movie tie-in comic books appropriate for all ages.
- + **Usagi Yojimbo:** These adventures of a Samurai rabbit in medieval Japan are wonderful reading and present great moral values.

Use these stories of heroes as a bridge to explain to your kids the greatest story in the universe—the story of how God paid the ultimate price to overcome evil and save a dying planet. That is the ultimate superhero story of all time!

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

## Operation J.O.Y. and PYF Easter Party

The children in *Operation J.O.Y.* were treated to an Easter Party on April 12. Jean and Mary fixed delicious and gorgeous cupcakes and treats. The cupcakes had a “Peep” on top, and red punch was also served. Thank you.

Deborah, Elaine, and Sam helped the children make cave bread. Each student was given the dough needed for one roll. After flattening it, each the child was given a marshmallow which was sealed in the dough.

While the children enjoyed singing, dying eggs, an Easter egg hunt, and a closing Easter devotion, the rolls were baked. The children

returned to the kitchen and were instructed to take a bite of their roll—the cave bread. Where the marshmallow had been there was nothing. What a surprise! Just like when Jesus was put in the tomb, and in three days the tomb was empty!

Meanwhile the mid-high PYF worked on a banner they are making. When it is finished, it will be hung in the Travers Room, the room used by both our PYF groups.

Big thanks to Mary Novinger, Jean Crawford, Elaine AuBuchon, Deborah Gering, Nicole Marshall, Greg Marshall, and Sam Scott for your help with this special Easter Party.

## How to Help in VBS Without Being a Teacher

Not every worker in Vacation Bible School is a Teacher. There is a wealth of behind-the-scenes workers and you are probably one of them. Think and pray about your spiritual gifts, your talents, and your interests. Then consider how God can use you in one or more of these behind-the-scenes VBS needs.

- + Bake cookies
- + Serve cookies and Kool-aid to children on Wednesday, July 12
- + Organize special snacks and sodas for the Leaders Room
- + Publicize and promote our VBS at First Presbyterian
  - Set up a large banner on the lawn and posters for bulletin boards.
- + Help us make decorations on Saturday, July 11 (in the morning)
  - Scissors, magic markers, and patterns will be provided.
- + Help decorate two classrooms and the sanctuary July 11 (in the afternoon)
- + Crew Leader
  - Walk from station to station with a group of 5 or 6 kids during VBS. Ask questions and talk with kids (questions supplied).
- + Send invitations to kids in our church
  - Postcards, names and addresses, postage will be supplied.
- + Photographer/videographer, video taker, whatever
  - You know what I mean.
- + Pray daily and faithfully that boys and girls will grow spiritually in our VBS.

Now hurry your little self to the telephone (665-4473), type us an e-mail ([office@presbykv.org](mailto:office@presbykv.org)), or tell Ronnaug in person the good news that you want to be part of the 2006 Vacation Bible School Volunteers. Thank You!



**Above:** Photos from Norma Green's medical mission trip to Guatemala. Norma is pictured top right and bottom left. See more pictures on the church web page at [www.presbykv.org](http://www.presbykv.org).

## Thanks from Norma (Gill) Green

Thank you all for your financial and spiritual support for my recent mission trip to Guatemala. It was an opportunity to not only minister to people's physical and medical needs, but to minister to their spiritual needs as well. We got to see numerous people hear about and come to know the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. It was a truly amazing experi-

ence for all of us. We got to see God move in some very real ways. Here are some of the pictures from our trip so you all can see a part of what we got to do and experience. Again, thank you for your prayers and money that helped make this possible!

*Peace in Christ  
Norma Green*

## Memorial Gifts Improve Church Classrooms

Bulletin/Chalk boards have been installed in two Sunday School classrooms. The following memorial gifts to our church made this project possible:

RUSSELL BOHON (D. 1998)

GERTIE PICKENS (1900-2002)

VERNELLE GERHOLD (1922-2004)

CORNELIS KOUTSTALL (1935-2005)

ROMA MORRIS (1918-2005)

MARTHA GOOCH (1925-2005)

DAVID LINK (1951-2005)

BERNICE CLARK (1904-2006)

We honor these deceased members today, and in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, dedicate these loving gifts to the Glory of God.

## Children's Choir Thanks

A big "Thank You" to all the boys and girls in Children's Choir and to Elaine AuBuchon, Director, for the very touching and well done music you provided on Palm Sunday. Your smiles and palm branches, as well as your voices, helped us worship God in an exciting and meaningful way. Keep up the good work!

## Computer Donation

Thanks to Mary Giovannini for the donation of a computer, monitor and printer to the church. Parts from that computer will be used to help set up a computer that can be used by the kids of the church.

## Presbytery News

### *Covenant Point Help*

We still need two paid counselors for the summer camp season. We need one male and one female, both of whom have life guard certification, Red Cross WSI or equivalent. Preferred are individuals 18 years of age or older, but the camp committee has authorized me to hire as young as 16 years old if the individual is sufficiently mature and qualified. The commitment is for six weeks at \$300.00 per week, but to attract properly qualified individuals, I have been authorized to negotiate a longer commitment if necessary.

Also, let me remind you that our target registration deadline is May 15. We have an exciting curriculum and some top notch event directors.

*Rev. Michael D. Lewton,  
Interim Camp Director*

### *New Church Members*

From Sara Beth Fouch, Clerk of Session at La Plata! "...we have nine new members at CPC, La Plata—three adults, and six youth. Praise the Lord!"

Versailles has received six new members and Boonville received five new members yesterday during their celebration of 185 years.

### *Moderator's Supper*

Diane Miller wishes to make sure that the Presbytery is invited to the moderator's supper on May 13th at 6:30 PM at First Church Versailles. It is a causal affair and all are welcome to come. The church has done a wonderful job of making the facilities look great with new projection equipment and other improvements.



**Above:** Nick Nichols, Michael Van Bebber, Greg Marshall and Jay Bulen play at the Easter Service.

## Church Photo Directory Moves to Next Phase

Work on the informal church photo directory is continuing. While there will be no more general church photo days, individuals may still submit a photo (print or digital) for inclusion. Individuals may also contact Scott Thatcher at 665-2883 or at [thatcher@truman.edu](mailto:thatcher@truman.edu) to arrange a time to have their pictures taken.

Scott reminds everyone that, "The trade-off for a lack of professionalism in shooting the photos is an increase in flexibility while creating the directory."

Look for further announcements about the directory once Truman's classes wind down and the summer's endless possibilities beckon.



## *Congratulations! May Birthdays...*



Kay Alm  
John Haman  
Blake Collier  
Melina Matheny  
Judy Bultman  
Matt Matheny  
Todd Sparks  
Mary Novinger  
Brenda Matheny  
Margaret Ferrell  
Percy David Awuh  
Ginny Crabb

Jane Trimborn  
Sydney Ross  
David Giovannini  
David Bulen  
Georgia Walter

## *...and Anniversaries*

Jamie & Todd Sparks  
J & Jan Biehl  
Karen & Tod Sylvara  
Brenda & Matt Matheny  
Bob & Barbie Sanders



## Immigration: In Christ There Is No East or West, In Him No North or South

All progress is precarious, and the solution of one problem brings us face to face with another problem.

*“Strength to Love” (1963),  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

April 2006—More than a million people, mostly immigrants, have taken to the streets recently to rally for a compassionate, respectful and comprehensive immigration law. They carried signs that boasted: “We are America;” signs that asked “Do not criminalize us” and begged; “Do not deport my parents.” There were more than 140 rallies across the U.S. for a National Day of Action for Immigrant Justice. Protesters against the pending harsh immigration laws chanted, “Today, we march; tomorrow, we vote.” The anger of future voters has struck fear in the hearts of politicians, on both sides of the aisle.

In March and April the U.S. Senate is expected to deliberate on immigration policy. The General Assembly has helped to develop a study guide, *Resolution Calling for a Comprehensive Legalization Program for Immigrants Living and Working in the United States*. This study guide can be downloaded from:

<http://www.pcusa.org/acswp/pdf/immigration-resolution.pdf>

[Story taken from the PC(USA) web site, [www.pcusa.com](http://www.pcusa.com). Notes from the Archives will return next month.]

### Financial Report through March 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:				

## News from Session

- + Daniel Marshall was baptized on March 19, 2006.
- + Jeff and Jana Arabas, and their children, Adriana, Alexandra and Aeden, joined the church on April 9.
- + Presbyterian Disaster Teams have gone from this area to help others. More are planning to go. If you are interested contact Reverend Lou.
- + More money is needed for the furnace/air conditioner that has been installed in the Travers Room. Just put donations in the collection plate marked for “furnace.”
- + The next Presbytery Meeting is on May 16 at Covenant Point Camp. Attending this meeting would offer an opportunity to see the camp as well as see the Presbytery in action.

## News from the Deacons

- + Summer planning: Deacons are planning to encourage congregation members to volunteer this summer for the Kids’ Café program and for Hope’s Kitchen. Summer is a time when extra help is needed.
- + Posters advertising rides to church in our church van have been distributed to area nursing homes and other appropriate locations.
- + The next Second-Sunday Potluck occurs on Mothers’ Day. If you can’t bring *your* mother to the brunch, a mother on which to bestow appropriate honor will be provided for you. We hope to see everyone there!