



The Carbondale Presbyterian

Editor: Linda Brandon web address: <http://www.firstprescdale.org>
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Spirit of Christmas
Name Pickup Oct. 20-Nov. 3

SSS Snacks - Oct. 27

Warming Center Cleanup Day -
Nov. 2

Faith Dialogue: Spiritual
Disciplines in Everyday Life
Nov. 3 & 10

Yarning to Make a Difference
Nov. 3

Stewardship Sunday
Nov. 10

Laundry Day - Nov. 12

Pizza & Movie - Nov. 15

Dinner Group - Nov. 21

Sevice to Call Attention
to Gun Violence - Nov. 24

Spirit of Christmas Gift
Return - Nov. 24

Stuffing SSS - Dec. 1

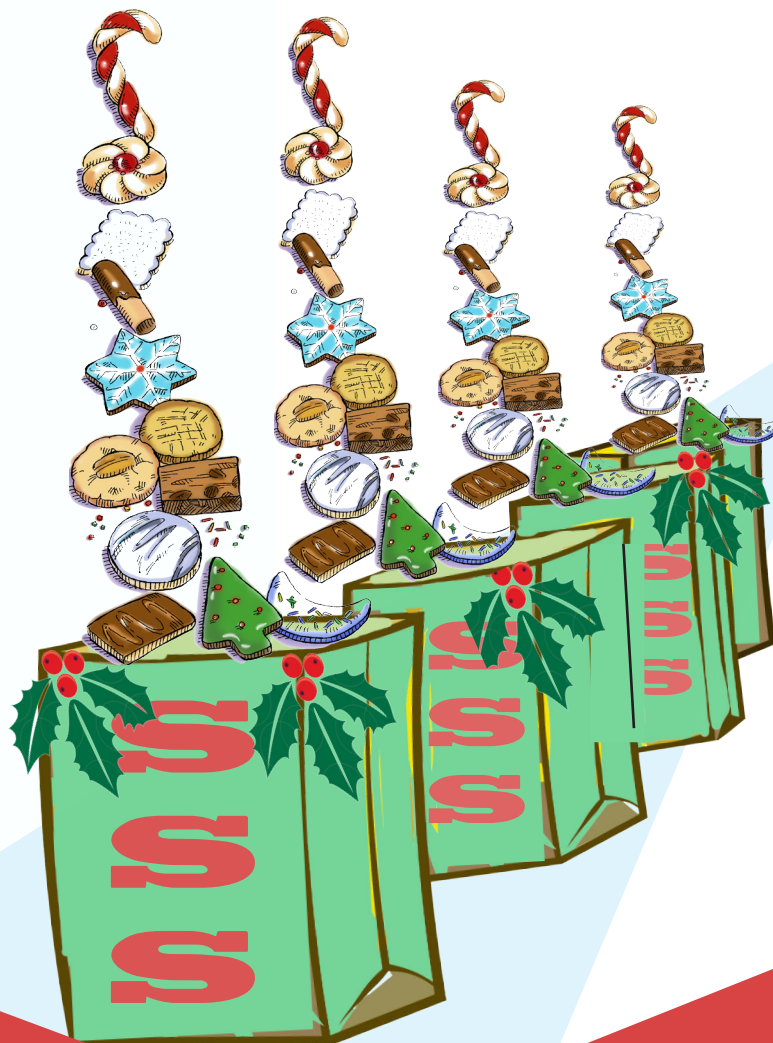
Socks & Mitten Tree Dec. 1

Church Office Hours

Monday through Thurs-
day 9:00-11:30 a.m. and
12:30-4:00 p.m.

Phone Extensions:

Rev. Kerry Bean 101
Barb 100
Carlyn: 106
SI Diaper Bank 110



*Student Spirit Sacks
snack donattions begining October
27*

*Student Spirit Sacks
stuffed December 1
mailed 1st week in
December*

Notes from Kerry

Of Stewardship and Thanksgiving

So here I am in hotel room (a nice one, I must say) near the harbor in Baltimore. Cindy and I are just back from our adventure on the high seas and we're attending a national denominational meeting for leaders of the PCUSA. And, of all things, I just got back from a workshop on "Improvisation in The Midst of Transition". More about that in a minute...

First, though, I want to say that I am thankful. I am thankful to serve a congregation like ours that not only allows me vacation time but encourages me to take it. And the same is true for my Continuing Education time (like this weekend in Baltimore). I am thankful that I have been able to carve out a vocation and answer a call through ministry (and academics- my other "job"). God has provided me so many opportunities that listing them all might fill the rest of this newsletter. I have the most awesomest spouse and kids. I've travelled all over our country, to Europe, and to Israel. For the most part, I've spent my life doing what I want to do when I want to do it. How blessed I am! So, I am thankful indeed.

I'm betting that many of you all feel that you are well-blessed, too. On the great ledger of life, you have been given many assets. And not just given, but you've worked for them as well. Still, though, the opportunity came to you and you had the resources to move forward: to go to that school, to get that job, to take that trip, to get the treatment you needed, etc. And so thanksgiving is not just a national holiday but an important part of our devotional life and our relationship with God.

Another important part of living out our Christian faith is using our gifts in ways that make this world better for others, not just ourselves. In his ministries, Jesus healed others, spoke out against injustice, fed hungry people, and encouraged all who listened to share. And while these things may not always be easy for us, the principle is easy to understand. From what we are given, we are called to help others. Jesus, being a good rabbi, modified a staple Old Testament teaching: "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

We at First PC-Carbondale are beginning our annual Stewardship Campaign. We don't do it just so that we can pay the insurance bill and the electric bill (and for my vacation time!), but so that we all together can better follow Jesus Christ and his command that we love our neighbors. Sure, the money is important, but not nearly as important the people whose lives we can touch through our church's ministries. Are there lots of other charitable organizations that you can work with and give your treasure to? Absolutely. Cindy and I, for instance, are owners at the Neighborhood Co-op and supporters of WSIU. But the church exists both to help people and to bring honor to God. Stewardship is the practice of making our God-given resources do as much work for the Kingdom of God that they can.

And now back to Improvisation. One of the key tenets of improvisation in live performance is "Yes, and...". That is, when one performer makes a suggestion and creates a situation, the partner says yes, let's do that *and* let's build on that and take the situation in a new direction. That is what our Interim time is about: partnering with one another (and with God) and discovering some potential new directions that our ministries may take. It's exciting, it's fun, and it's even risky. And for all of that, this November, I am full of thanks.

Peace,

Kerry



Sunday, November 10, we will collect and dedicate stewardship pledge cards. This year's theme has been borrowed from our vision statement: Seeking the Faith, Sharing the Spirit, and Serving God's People. That pretty much sums up everything we do at First Pres.

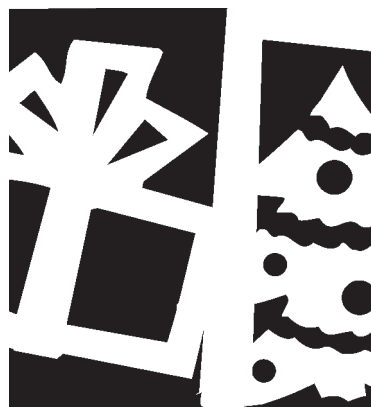
Your 2020 pledge will enable us to continue the good work that we are doing in addition to taking on some new mission projects (such as the Carbondale Laundry Project that provides free laundry services for homeless individuals) as well as some necessary maintenance of our beautiful church (for example, a portion of the roof over the old offices needs to be replaced).

Please join us in support of our church's people, missions, and facilities. We ask you to consider prayerfully whether you can maintain or even increase your pledge, remembering that all we have is a gift from God. Thank you for your support of the church.

Stewardship Committee: Rob Jensen, Sarah Merideth & Jane Swanson

Spirit of Christmas

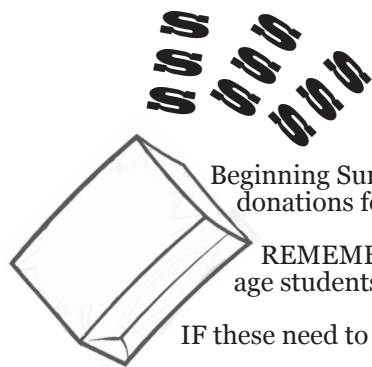
The Spirit of Christmas is already upon us. Please look for the table in the Narthex where you can adopt a child or adult for Christmas giving from October 20 to November 3. You will be asked to purchase gifts for someone in need in our community, wrap the gifts, and return to them to church by November 24. Further instructions will be available at the table.



Socks and Mittens Tree

The Socks and Mittens Tree will be set up in the Narthex by December 1, and will be ready for festive decoration with new socks, mittens, hats, scarves and underwear for children (pre-K through middle school age) in the local schools. The Mission team will deliver these items to the schools prior to the winter break.

Mark your calendars for the Alternative Gift Fair December 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Civic Center..



COLLECTION FOR 2019 STUDENT SPIRIT SACKS

Beginning Sunday, October 27, green crates will be set up in our Church hallway for your donations for Student Spirit Sack treats. Treat idea lists will be available there.

REMEMBER that we rely on Church members to give us the names of family college-age students that you would like to receive a SACK.

IF these need to be mailed, addresses must be provided to Dede & Jonathon ASAP.

Out-of-town mailing must be done during the first week in December.

Choir members and other frequent college-age visitor's names must be provided well ahead: dedeittner@gmail.com & drakedobson@yahoo.com

"SSS" will be stuffed Sunday, December 1, in Fellowship Hall.

FAITH DIALOGUES IN NOVEMBER

Stay tuned for some exciting topics in Faith Dialogues! We'll start November 3 & 10 with Spiritual Disciplines in Everyday Life, presented by Pastor Kerry, followed by the Holy Cow survey that we postponed from an earlier date. We may also hear from Jim Calloway about his trip with Marion Medical Mission. Watch for announcements during the Sunday service.

FAITH DIALOGUES ADVENT STUDY

How might a house look for Christmas based on what each Gospel says about it? Faith Dialogues will consider this question in December, through the book "Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes" by Cynthia Campbell, past president of McCormick Theological Seminary. This book will be available for only \$5 – buy your copy and join us at Faith Dialogues beginning December 1.

Hope for the Holidays



Again this year, our congregation will participate in a card-writing activity to bring messages of hope and comfort to families and children in immigration detention. Stop by Fellowship Hall Sunday,

December 1, to write a holiday message of hope and encouragement to someone in detention. Cards and sample messages will be provided.

Laundry Project

We will have our first "laundry day" Tuesday, November 12. We still could use donations of quarters, laundry detergent, bleach, and dryer sheets. Look for the laundry basket in the narthex.

Yarning to Make a Difference: November 3

The Yarning to Make a Difference group will meet Sunday, November 3, after the education hour. This small group is open to anyone who enjoys knitting or crocheting, or who wants to learn to knit or crochet. Members make prayer shawls and baby blankets for church members and newly enrolled infants in the Presbyterian Church Daycare, as well as personal items. Bring your lunch and a project. Contact Jane Swanson (jlsphd@gmail.com) for more information.



A Service of Comfort and Call: A Faithful Gathering to Acknowledge the Grief Caused by Gun Violence

Sunday, November 24, First Presbyterian will host a community gathering to focus attention on the critical issue of gun violence in the United States. We will begin at 2 p.m. with a screening of *Trigger: The Ripple Effect of Gun Violence*, followed by a discussion at 3 p.m., and a worship service at 4 p.m. Please plan to attend and invite others in the community to join us.

THANK YOU

With Thanksgiving around the corner, it seems the appropriate time for the Membership Ministry to thank the many folks in the congregation who have been serving as greeters and visitor liaisons. These individuals ensure that members are welcomed warmly on Sunday mornings and that all visitors have personal contact with at least one member of the congregation:



Phyllis Beck
Denise & Orlan Brown
Deborah Burris
Cindy & Gerry Buys
Jim Calloway
Diane Cash
Reona Daly
Marta & Harry Davis
Elizabeth Hamilton
Jill Hertzing
Lisa Hollabaugh & Rolanda Quick
Dori & Rick Jefferson
Beth Malmquist
Mary Mantovani
Bill Martens & Jane Swanson
Sarah Merideth
Jim Milford
Brenda & Hurley Myers
Judy & Bill Schwegman

Thank you all for your service. You may notice that many of these folks are also currently serving as Elders and Deacons. If you would like to volunteer to be a greeter or visitor liaison and thereby lighten the load of the church leadership, your service would be most welcome. Contact Sarah Merideth (smmerideth@gmail.com) or Lisa Hollabaugh (lisa.hollabaugh@gmail.com) to volunteer. It takes only 20 minutes of time on Sunday morning, and assignments are generally only once per quarter.



The Dinner Group met October 17, at Hunan's with 16 diners present. We sang Happy Birthday to Betty Arnold who turned 92 October 16. John Hooker gave the blessing. As usual we took up donations for the food bank. Bill & Judy Schwegman were our hosts but Judy stayed home still recovering from a bout of pneumonia that had put her in the hospital for a week-plus. She is getting better very slowly but looking forward to getting well enough to return to church soon. At this time plans for the November dinner are only in the formative state. Check your church bulletin in November for further details.



The Cast



The Crew

Murder by Malbec

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our very fun and successful fundraiser and play, *Murder by Malbec*. There are too many persons involved to thank each one of you individually; however, we are very grateful to our playwright and director, cast, stage crew, set designers, sound technician, cooks, servers, and everyone else who contributed. We had a full-house for the command performance and raised over \$3,000 to fight hunger. The proceeds will be divided 60/40 between the Good Samaritan Food Pantry and the Presbyterian Hunger Program.



The Audience

Pizza and Movie night returns to the the third Thursday of the month, November 15, at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Pizza will be hot and ready to eat at 6 p.m., supplemented with salad, fruit, cookies, and something to drink. When clean up is completed we will move to the Youth Room to watch this video on that big screen, usually about 7 p.m. Let Kitty know you plan to be there via phone 203-1907 or email: trescott@midwest. Invite family and friends, too.



Trumbo – Bryan Cranston stars in this true story about the Blacklisted screenwriter Dalton Trumbo who was locked out of Hollywood because of suspicions that he was a Communist. But that didn't stop him from writing movies for the big screen. He's also surrounded by the likes of John Goodman, Helen Mirren, Michael Stuhlbarg, Elle Fanning and Louis C.K.



Photos by Bob Luebbers

Caption assistance by John and Carolyn Hooker

PRESCHOOL



We would like to share a very special thank you to everyone who contributed to our mum plant sale. We sold 131 mums and we made a profit of \$845 which includes generous donations from the Greenley family, Ron Stork, and Margaret and Edward Simonds. An extra special thank you to Kristi Cummings and Nellie Baril for picking up and delivering the plants and distribution of plants which made for a smooth and easy fundraiser. The mums were so big and absolutely gorgeous; we will definitely partner with this local farmer again next year.

In November, we will be learning about Fall, Insects, and Thanksgiving. The Frog Class has a field trip planned to attend Story Time at the Carbondale Public Library. It's so wonderful that the Library is close by and we can enjoy a nice walk over to participate in their community event.

Exciting news, we have hired our current Teacher's Aide, Mrs. Jessica, to step up into Mrs. Kimberly's maternity leave teaching position for next semester. We are currently taking applications for a Substitute Teacher's Aide position which will start January 6, 2020, through May. The job posting is listed on Indeed.com if you know of anyone who would make a great addition to our teaching team send them our way.

DAYCARE

Fall has arrived. We are so excited to see the leaves falling and changing color. We really like watching them dance in the wind. There are so many glorious learning experiences happening during this season.



Last month, we enjoyed talking about autumn, going to the pumpkin patch, picking a pumpkin, roasting pumpkin seeds, and having a Halloween party. The children really enjoyed learning about all the amazing things that happen during this special season. They are also still learning from our small garden where the tomato plants are still producing delicious tomatoes for all to enjoy. Let us know if you would like some and we will be happy to share. The children also enjoyed parading around the church with their Halloween costumes on and playing fun games in the Fellowship Hall for Halloween. We had mummy bowling, pumpkin bean bag toss, witch hat ring toss, pumpkin bucket toss, just to name a few.

This month, we will be celebrating the important holiday of Thanksgiving. We will be focusing on the importance of kindness, love, gratefulness, and generosity. These are things to practice all year round and especially this month and season. We are thankful for the church for providing space for our beautiful children to learn and grow. Thank you. We look forward to the season ahead.

We are always trying to build cultural awareness with our children. We are in need of child-size clothing for our

Preschool

Just in time for the Christmas season we have partnered with Show Me Dough Fundraising and their delicious pastries, cookies and pizza. The original Butter Braid® pastries come in 7 delectable flavors, perfect for family events, celebrations, or a special treat. The Wooden Spoon cookie dough is pre-portioned for your convenience, no thawing, no scooping, and no mess! Each pizza order comes with two full sized locally manufactured pizzas - enough for the whole family. We will be taking orders through Wednesday, 11/13/19 and the delivery date will be Tuesday, 11/19/19 at 11:00 a.m. We appreciate your support for our preschool. Have a Blessed November.



Daycare



dress-up center from cultures around the world. Please let us know if you will be able to help provide some items to help.

We are also having a gourmet popcorn fundraiser to benefit our center. Please let us know if you would like to participate. Donations in lieu of orders are also welcomed and appreciated. Please call (618)529-1551 with any questions.

We hope everyone has a nice November and Happy Thanksgiving.



CARBONDALE WARMING CENTER



The Warming Center's mission is to "provide nighttime sleeping space on cold nights as a supplement to Carbondale's existing shelter system, for the sake of human dignity, safety, and survival." The Warming Center will open this year around December 1, in a new and improved location, in a building owned by the city of Carbondale at 608 E. College. The Warming Center needs help getting the building ready at a clean-up day Saturday, November 2, at 9:00 a.m. Our Mission Ministry team has already donated \$500 to the Warming Center, and the clean-up day is another way that we can support this important community resource.

Last year, the Warming Center was open 72 nights, and served 57 individuals (20 women) for a total of 618 stays (an average of 10.8 nights per person). On an average night, there were between 3 and 15 guests (average of 8.6). The Warming Center had 5 paid staff, 2 interns, and 17 volunteers. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Jane Swanson, email carbondalewarmingcenter@gmail.com, or visit the Warming Center website at carbondalewarmingcenter.weebly.com

Want to Travel The World?

Okay, how about traveling the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois instead? Our congregation is looking for a new commissioner to attend the regular stated meetings of presbytery, at least for the rest of this year and for 2020.



There are three requirements: you have to be ordained as an Elder, you have to be approved by the session, and you need transportation. That's pretty much it. The presbytery provides new commissioner training before each meeting, by the way...

The next meeting of PSEI is Thursday ,11/21 (not Thanksgiving) at First Presbyterian Church of nearby Effingham. The meeting starts at 10:00am and should adjourn around 3:00 p.m. Lunch is provided for a nominal fee.

If you are interested in this once-in-a-life-time opportunity, see either Clerk of Session David King or myself for more information. This is your chance to gain a fuller understanding of how connectional our PCUSA denomination is. What a deal!

-Pastor Kerry

Financial Report September 2019

75% of the year completed

Line	Income	Budget	
Pledges	\$ 175,697.61	\$ 219,109.00	80%
Nonpledge Offerings	\$ 11,771.12	\$ 12,000.00	98%
Per Capita	\$ 779.00	\$ 1,500.00	52%
Trans. From Investments		\$ -	
Miscellaneous	\$ 14,252.54	\$ 20,290.00	70%
Totals	\$ 202,500.27	\$ 252,899.00	80%

Line	Expenditures	Budget	
Mission	\$ 6,182.40	\$ 13,520.00	46%
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 32,178.87	\$ 60,167.64	53%
Staff	\$ 51,671.14	\$ 72,172.82	72%
Christian Ed.	\$ 1,043.70	\$ 6,100.00	17%
Worship & Music	\$ 632.18	\$ 4,475.00	14%
Comm/Administration	\$ 16,085.15	\$ 21,430.00	75%
Property/Capital	\$ 39,213.23	\$ 73,133.54	54%
Christian Nurture	\$ 527.94	\$ 1,900.00	28%
Total	\$ 147,534.61	\$ 252,899.00	58%

Revenues over expenses \$ 54,965.66

Bank acct. \$ 27,475.40

OOPS!

We'll be handing out tracks.

This appeared in some other church publication, not one of ours.

November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Fellowship 11am - Faith Development	28 5:30pm - Food Addicts	29 7pm - Ovrtrrs Anon	30 7pm - Wed. Wonderers	31 10am - Tai CHI	1 5:30pm - FOB 9:30am - KISS 12pm - D. A.	2
3 8:45am - Deacons' Mtg 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Fellowship 11am - Faith Development 12pm - Yarning Group	4	5 7pm - Ovrtrrs Anon	6 7pm - Wed. Wonderers	7 10am - Tai CHI 6:30pm - Oasis C'dale	8 5:30pm - FOB 9:30am - KISS 12pm - D. A.	9
10 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Fellowship 11am - Faith Development	11 5:30pm - Food Addicts	12 7pm - Ovrtrrs Anon 7pm - Session	13 4:45pm - Mission Ministry 5:30pm - Worship Ministry 7pm - Wed. Wonderers	14 10am - Tai CHI 6:30pm - Oasis C'dale	15 5:30pm - FOB 6pm - Movie Group 9:30am - KISS 12pm - D. A.	16
17 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Fellowship 11am - Faith Development	18	19 1pm - Presby Women 7pm - Faith Development 7pm - Ovrtrrs Anon	20 Newsletter Deadline 7pm - Wed. Wonderers	21 10am - Tai CHI 5:30pm - Dinner Grp	22 5:30pm - FOB 9:30am - KISS 12pm - D. A.	23
24 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Fellowship 11am - Faith Development 2pm - Trigger Video 3pm - Trigger Discussion 4pm - Trigger Worship	25 5:30pm - Food Addicts	26 6pm - Interfaith Cncl 6pm - Presby Men 7pm - Ovrtrrs Anon	27 7pm - Wed. Wonderers	28 Office Closed 10am - Tai CHI 5:45pm - Daycare Board	29 5:30pm - FOB 9:30am - KISS 12pm - D. A.	30



First Presbyterian Church
Carbondale, Illinois

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pastorkerry@firstprescdale.org (Rev. Bean)

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In 1889 Presbyterian membership was still growing. There was a membership of 189.

There were 6 ruling elders, 3 deacons and 14 teachers. Including non-members and children, the average attendance was also about 189.