

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN TIMES

November 2012



First Presbyterian Church
919 East 10th Street
Rolla, MO 65401

Phone: 573-364-3852
Fax: 573-426-5320
Email: presby1@fidnet.com
Website: www.rollapresby.org

R. Lee Jennings, **Pastor**
Kathy Mazzeo, **Organist/Pianist**
Betti Jo Pyatt, **Office Manager**

Jeff Sandquist, **Choir Director**
Candace Ludden, **Preschool Director**
Robert Garcia, **Church Sexton**

CHURCH OFFICERS

ELDERS

Mary Kwantes (2012)
Dixie Finley (2012)
Bob May (2012)
Katherine Cook (2013)
Ming Leu (2013)
Jonathan Kimball (2013)
Susan Murray (2014)
Vashy Rahaman (2014)
Britt Whitaker (2014)

DEACONS

Karen Hudson (2012)
Pat Joslin (2012)
Judy Fox (2012)
Carol Jennings (2013)
Jay Turner (2013)
Carrie Aswegan (2014)
Cheryl Koederitz (2014)
Pat Look (2014)
Wendy Wilbanks (2014)

TRUSTEES

Chuck Bennett (2012)
Ward Merrell (2012)
Frank Jessop (2014)
Robert Anderson (2014)
Rhonda Kimball (2014)
Ken Kwantes (2014)

Cynthia Hobart - Clerk of Session



We are trying to streamline our newsletter delivery! At present, we spend approximately **\$45 PER MONTH** on newsletter mailings. If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of our newsletters via email rather than have them mailed or left to pick up in the hallway of the church, please email your family's name and email address to: presby1@fidnet.com or use the signup sheet on the hall table.

Choir News

The Chancel Choir invites any interested singers to join the choir for the Christmas Cantata "On Christmas Night" by Bob Chilcott. Extended rehearsals will be held on the following Wednesdays beginning at 7:30 p.m. November 7, 14, 28, December 5, and at 7:00 p.m. on December 12. The cantata will be presented during the worship service on Sunday, December 16.



Presbyterian Women

Thanks to all who contributed items and special thanks to those who gave of their time for the Rummage Sale on October 13. Over \$700 was raised, which will be given to GRACE, Russell House, the Springfield Regional Girls Shelter, the Rolla Public School Friday Backpack Program, the Community Partnership, the Rolla Presbyterian Manor, and the PW of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Missions.



PW will hold its annual Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale on Saturday, December 1, 8am - 2pm, to raise additional funds for the aforementioned mission organizations. We will again have the highly successful cookie walk, so donations of many homemade cookies will be very much appreciated. Donations of other baked goods, craft items, and Christmas decor, cards, etc., are also welcome for the sale.

PW of First and Calvary Presbyterian Church in Springfield is having a Fall Gathering on Saturday, November 3, 10am to Noon, in their Fellowship Hall. Brunch will be served at 10:15 am, at a cost of \$8.00. Guest speaker, Colene Hanks, a talented writer, will present a slide presentation of Stained Glass Windows of Churches throughout the USA. For more information, please see the flyer on the PW Bulletin Board.

On Saturday, October 20, Sondra Crow, Barbara Ford, and Cynthia Hobart attended the Festival of Sharing in Sedalia. Barbara and Sondra brought 13 baby quilts (they had made with a little help from other PW women) for Backpacks of Love, which are given to Missouri children who are removed from their homes by the police and placed in foster care. They also donated quilts they had made to be auctioned in the Quilt Auction. The money raised from the auction is used to buy blankets (one blanket for every \$5 raised), as well as tool kits and more for Missourians and others served by Church World Services.

Circle III will meet Sunday, November 18 at 4 PM in the Sadler Lounge. All women of First, family and friends are welcome!

Stewardship and Finance

IT IS A CELEBRATION!!!



Consecration Sunday is November 4, 2012.

Everyone is invited to come and celebrate this opportunity to commit a portion of their financial income to God's work, first in Worship and then in a celebratory catered luncheon. THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL EVENT!

On that morning, worship service will be led by Dr. Richard (Dick) Menzel. He will deliver a special message and participate in the Celebration of Giving. During the luncheon, he will give another short talk titled, "A Brief Introduction to an Amazing Presbyterian."

After worship service, EVERYONE is invited to unite in Fellowship Hall and enjoy a delicious meal. The magnificent aroma of roast pork and all the trimmings will tantalize your nostrils as you gather around the beautifully decorated tables. For this year, our meal is being catered by four of our own Presbyterian Women. They approached the Stewardship Committee with the idea of allowing them to do the catering for this event and use the funds they receive for a special mission project. It was hard to resist the idea of using these appropriated funds to do more of God's good works. We also know that the meal will be outstanding.

We want and need your participation! Reservations are necessary for a successful event. If you have not responded one way or the other, we will contact you during the week of October 29 just to get firm numbers for the meal. Please mark your calendar today for November 4, 2012 and plan on attending Worship service and the luncheon that immediately follows. Even if you do not traditionally make a written commitment of giving, we invite you to join in the celebration. We are all God's children called to share the gifts as we have been given.

The next few days will serve as a time of reflection and decision making for each of us individually to determine..."WHAT DOES GOD EXPECT FROM ME?"

Exodus 25:2 "Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering."

As some of you already have heard, our church received a major gift this summer, a bequest from a non-member who felt called to give a portion of his estate (in the amount of \$294,334.73) to God's work in the world through our church. I see it not as something that our church has "earned" in any way, but rather God's grace working through human hands. The task before us now is to determine appropriate uses that will ensure a long and prosperous future for our church.

At this time, only two decisions have been made. First, the bequest was received at a time when the church's finances were tight. Although individual giving is healthy, total giving has been declining

this year along with our membership. Therefore, the Session approved using \$20,000 for operating expenses. Second, the Session chose to model tithing and allocate 10% for missions, both through the Presbytery and through direct missions (specific uses to be determined). Several suggestions and proposals have been made for further uses of the funds, but no decisions or commitments have been made at this time.

I view this gift as an inspiration for what I should be doing in my own life, and what we should be doing as a church. I am continuing to seek ways to give more of myself—time, talent, and treasures—to God's work through our church. Also, we should all realize that God touches many lives through us and through our church family, and should seek ways to reach out to more people in our community and the world.

Jonathan Kimball
Chair, Stewardship & Finance

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the World Food Court. There was a short program for reflection on hunger and food waste. It was a successful experiment and everyone who did attend would agree there was fine food for tasting.



Hunter's Breakfast

We are inviting the community to visit our church on Saturday, November 10, opening day of deer season, for a breakfast of biscuits & gravy, pancakes, and sausage. Everyone is welcome to come join in the fun! We will be setting up around 7am and serving from 8am until about noon. There is a sign-up sheet for helpers. We will be advertising this broadly—newspaper, radio, and a banner—so even if you do not sign up to help, please come by to be a welcoming presence. If you have any questions, contact Jonathan or Rhonda Kimball or Mary Kwantes.

As the holidays approach, please consider bringing a student into your home for Thanksgiving. The students that are most likely to be in need of a meal and "family" will be foreign students. Mary will contact the university if any of you come forward to volunteer. Our December outreach event will be bringing the community into our church for four performances of a Drama Force Christmas Play on December 14 and 15. More details will come later. Thank you to some of you have already volunteered to bring and/or serve cookies between the two plays each evening!

Mission Committee

It is hard to believe that the holiday season is right around the corner. The Mission Committee is going to adopt eight families again this year from GRACE for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We hope that this will help eight families have a

Our church has always gone out of its way to help families in Rolla and Phelps County. We are truly a church that does what Jesus taught in Matthew 25:34-36; *"I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was homeless*

happy Thanksgiving and Christmas, one that they would not have had. There is a sign up poster in the vestibule of the church with food items that we need to fill the boxes for Thanksgiving. If you sign up for food, we need it back to the church by November 14 so that we know what food items we need to buy. The boxes will be filled Sunday, November 18 after church and delivered the same day. If you would like to make a monetary donation make the check out to the Presbyterian Church, but in the memo space write "Thanksgiving Baskets."

and you gave me a room. I was shivering and you gave me clothes. I was sick and you stopped to visit. I was in prison and you came to me. Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me."



Festival of Sharing

Cynthia Hobart, Sondra Crow, and Barbara Ford attended the Festival of Sharing gathering at the state fairgrounds in Sedalia. They had an awesome day! They joined hundreds of others from churches in Missouri who brought quilts, health kits, layette kits, disaster buckets, and so much more to the big auditorium. There were groups of young people who worked at bagging beans and rice, packing the kits and potatoes, garden seed packets, and so much more. Then they sorted it all and packed it into boxes and onto trucks for transport to the needy in our state, and around the world. Talk about a beehive of activity for the good of mankind and the glory of God, this was it! The ladies joined in the worship service accompanied by a band with guitars, drums and a keyboard for the worship music. Toward the end of the service, the young people who had worked in the beehive paraded with the banners representing all the participating church organizations. We watched a video showing grateful recipients of the bounty collected at last year's festival. We had lunch in a food court where churches provided inexpensive, good, hardy food, then watched as the many, many quilts were auctioned off to provide blankets so desperately needed this time of year. For each \$5 earned from the quilts, another blanket can be bought. Sondra's beautiful quilt brought \$300 - that is 60 blankets. What an inspiring day!



Come join us next year!

We regret to announce Our Office Manager, Kim Pyatt-Bostock is leaving our employ effective Friday, October 26. Kim had an opportunity to work with us part-time while also doing other work from home. However, that situation changed and she necessarily elected to accept a full-time position at Great Circle.

We will miss Kim lots as we have benefited much from her contributions. We wish her well in her new endeavor with Boys and Girls Town and are certain her new employer will appreciate her every bit as much as we have for the past few months

We have had much interest in our Office Manager position, including that of Kim's Mother, Betti Jo

Pyatt. After interviewing other applicants we came to the realization the Betti Jo is best suited to be our Office Manager. She will start in our office immediately and for a time will be working late mornings through the afternoon until we can accommodate the best schedule for all involved.

Please stop by some afternoon and greet Betti Jo to welcome her into our Church operation.

Bob May
Chair, Personnel Committee

We have a new office manager!

Hello, Let me introduce myself. I am Betti Jo Pyatt. I recently located to the Rolla area. I retired from the Department of Social Services after a 31-year career and am beginning my second career. I have one daughter, Kim Pyatt Bostock (as you all know) and two beautiful grandchildren, Connor and Emily who I enjoy spoiling. I enjoy the outdoors, photography, and spending time with family and friends. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you.