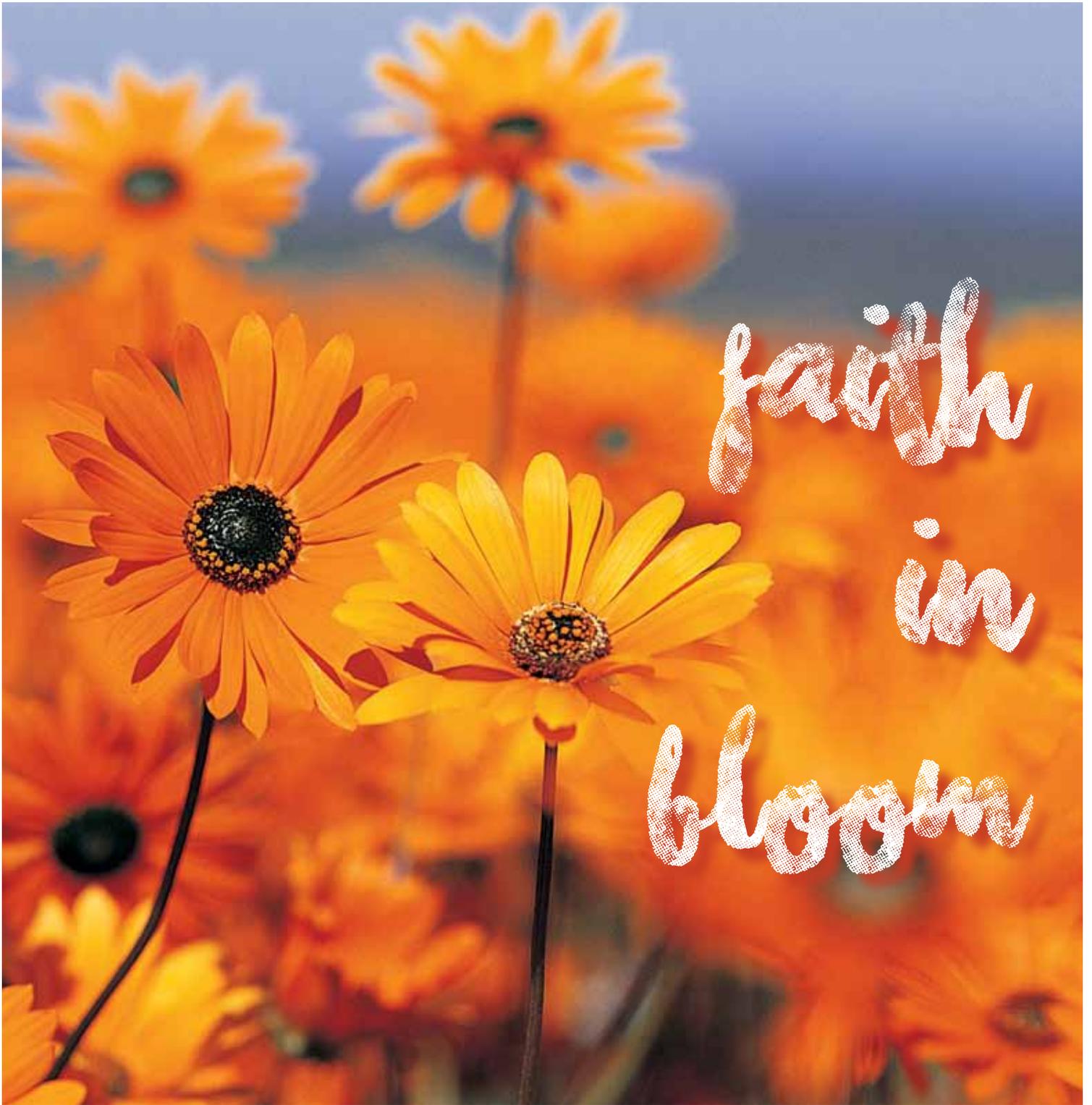




the STEEPLE

a publication of the First United Presbyterian Church

April 2016
Issue 68
Volume 4



*faith
in
bloom*

First United Presbyterian Church
1303 Royal Heights Road • Belleville, IL 62223
618.233.0295 • www.firstunitedpres.org

We are a Christian church that glorifies God through meaningful worship, active discipleship, faithful service and nurturing fellowship.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 3

Second Sunday of Easter

8:00 & 10:30 am

The Rev. Robert J. Dyer

Sacrifice

Hebrews 10:4-10

April 10

Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 & 10:30 am

The Rev. Robert J. Dyer

Fish for More

John 21:1-19

April 17

Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00 & 10:30 am

The Rev. Robert J. Dyer

His Sheep

John 10:22-30

April 24

Olympic Sunday

8:00 & 10:30 am

Philippians 3:12-21

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

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Faith in Bloom

The cold weather is fading away. The flowers will soon have permission to break forth in their fullness to make their praise to God. For many people, the winter months bring them down. Too many cold, dark days spent inside take away their joy and the relief of spring becomes very real. New life and new possibilities are found in the break of each dawn as the world warms around us.

As we go through seasons in our own lives, we may find the darkness and cold of life weighing upon us. We may be deceived into thinking that we can no longer bloom with joy in our lives of faith. Perhaps we feel that the best days of our lives are behind us. And yet, God gives us another day. God gives us another rising and setting of a sun to give witness to the death and rising of His Son. In truth, our faith knows no seasons. Our faith has the potential to bloom like a brave flower breaking through a snowy drift. The potential of your faith is not contained in any one year. With every day, you can bloom with love and grace. With every day, you can bloom with gratitude for what God has done in your life and even long before you were born. Today is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**In Christ,
Pastor Rob**

Reflections on Our Use of the Unearned Gift of Grace

Many view the Lenten season, culminating in Easter, as a time of sacrifice. On Good Friday, Christ provided the perfect atonement for the sins of a broken world and its imperfect human occupants – the *ultimate legacy of love, grace and forgiveness*. The greatest gift any of us can ever enjoy arises from the legacy of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. As we rejoice in Christ's resurrection and prepare for the gift of the spirit during Pentecost, it is altogether fitting that we take the time to reflect on how best to use our unearned gift of grace and prepare our own legacy of works, deeds and gifts in furtherance of God's kingdom.

~ The Stewardship Committee

In Our Prayers

Bill Burke (The Shrine Apts.)	Bonnie Krause (St. Paul's Apts.)	Wanda Lee Schmidt (Highland Nursing Home)	All world leaders
Jean Canale (Home)	Adam Landry (Illinois Veterans' Home,	Roberta Symonds (Home)	Our enemies
Irene & Wade Coverdell (Cedarhurst, Shiloh)	Anna, Illinois)	Our efforts to express our faith clearly	Our elders
Mary Diel (Rosewood)	Bill Lawrence (Cedarhurst of Shiloh)	Our efforts to grow spiritually	Our deacons
Nellie Elam (St. Paul's Nursing Home)	Ted Lawrence (Home)	Our efforts to discover & use our spiritual gifts	Our trustees
Annette Grove (Home)	Jeanette McCurdy (Knollwood, Caseyville)	Our efforts to serve the community	Our Church staff
Helen Handley Fabre (St. Paul's Asst. Living)	Lane Miller (The Shrine Apts.)	Our efforts to care for one another	Our Stephen Ministers
Bernice Handrich (Chesterfield, Missouri)	Mary Ellen Pollock (Still Waters Senior Living)	Our efforts to reach new believers	
Lucile Katty (St. Paul's Apts.)	Nancy Reinecker (Home)	People who are depressed and anxious	

Our Deepest Sympathy

For the family and friends of **Patti Glatthaar** who died on February 28 in Urbana, Illinois. For the family and friends of **Eunice Anderson** who died on March 14 in Belleville. For Shirley Thien and Faye Weis on the death of Shirley's husband, **Francis Thien**, who died on March 12 in Lebanon, Illinois. For Dede and Tom Farquhar on the death of her father, **Homer Weidmann**, who died on Sunday, March 20 in Belleville.

Ministering to God's People

April 3

USHERING 8:00 am
 Coni Jackson
 Mary Pollock
 Kathy Schmidt
USHERING 10:30 am
 KC Clayton
 Gigi & Roger Cox
 Adrian Croissant
 Ally Dyer
 Nathan Dyer (Junior Usher)
 Will Gagen (Junior Usher)
 Susy Rybicki
LITURGIST
 Dick Palmer
AMBASSADOR
 Rosemary Ehrstein
PHONE
 Abbey Croissant
BUS DRIVER
 Larry Scott
COUNTERS
 Joe Harnist
 Dennis Hubbard
HOSPITALITY
 Mary Marthas
SOUND OPERATOR
 Al Kraus
VIDEO OPERATOR
 Alex Tambala
NURSERY ATTENDANTS
Crib Room
 Kristen Link
 Vicki McAdams
 Diane Winland
 Emily Winland
Toddler Room
 Jan Dorris
 Bailey Guinn

April 10

USHERING 8:00 am
 Jackie & Dan Bainter
 Lou Stark
USHERING 10:30 am
 Sharon & Jerry Gaskill
 Delaney Giles (Junior Usher)
 Marian & Jim Morris
 Betty Scherrer
 Mitch Stark
 Karen Thompson
 Dean Wallen
ACOLYTE
 Austin Dyer
 Jessie Palus
 Colin Wiltsie
LITURGIST
 Julia Weeks
AMBASSADOR
 Norma Jackson
PHONE
 Jane Wilkin
BUS DRIVER
 Matt Hall
COUNTERS
 John Dorris
 John Heslop
HOSPITALITY
 Mission Committee
SOUND OPERATOR
 Dan Harres
VIDEO OPERATOR
 Rich Stehnach
NURSERY ATTENDANTS
Crib Room
 Natalie Maley-Bill
 Kari Bechtold
Toddler Room
 Amy Abernathy
 Jane Bynum
 Sharon Gaskill

April 17

USHERING 8:00 am
 Billie & Steve Chaney
USHERING 10:30 am
 Babs Hill
 Katie Jameson (Junior Usher)
 Al Kraus
 Cyndi & Ed Langen
 Amber Lankford (Junior Usher)
 Shawn Lankford
 Larry Scott
ACOLYTE
 Mike Jameson
 Zack Tambala
LITURGIST
 Jim Nicholas
AMBASSADOR
 Brenda & Roger Doll
PHONE
 Pat Daye
BUS DRIVER
 Dennis Hubbard
COUNTERS
 John Dorris
 John Heslop
HOSPITALITY
 Christian Education Committee
SOUND OPERATOR
 Mark Vandiver
VIDEO OPERATOR
 Alex Tambala
NURSERY ATTENDANTS
Crib Room
 TBD
Toddler Room
 TBD

April 24

USHERING 8:00 am
 Kathy & John Harryman
 Shirley Thien
USHERING 10:30 am
 Alex Abernathy
 Amy Abernathy
 Grace Farinas
 Dan Harres
 Elizabeth Kearns
 Grace Kearns (Junior Usher)
 Shirley & Bob Samples
ACOLYTE
 Heaven Beckett
 Marissa Kearns
LITURGIST
 Youth
AMBASSADOR
 Sharon & Jerry Gaskill
PHONE
 Pam Halel
 Linda Gurr
BUS DRIVER
 Cliff Fitts
COUNTERS
 John Dorris
 John Heslop
HOSPITALITY
 Sand Dollars
SOUND OPERATOR
 Dave Epps
VIDEO OPERATOR
 Rich Stehnach
NURSERY ATTENDANTS
Crib Room
 Laura/Kate Hall
 Pam & Danny Halel
Toddler Room
 Keely & Mike Giles
 Abby Smith
 Caroline Smith
 Morgan Smith

Presbyterian Women



April 2: Salad Luncheon and Fashion Show

The PW Salad Luncheon and Fashion Show will be Saturday, April 2, at 11:30 am in the Multi-Purpose Room. Models will walk among the tables wearing fashions from Dress Barn.

Give-a-Meal-a-Month (GAMAM)

Thank you for supporting this program! The menu to the right suggests non-perishable items to buy during April. All items collected are taken to the Catholic Urban Program Food Bank which ministers to families in the Metro East. Fill up a yellow GAMAM bag or fill your own bag and bring the items to the church. Monetary gifts are also welcome; make checks payable to First United Presbyterian with the memo to PW GAMAM.

Presbyterian Women's Circles in April

A circle is a small group of women who meet monthly. In each circle, faith is nurtured and growth takes place through worship, Bible study, fellowship and outreach. There are three circles which meet at different times and days. These circles are open to all women. The Horizon's Bible study this year is *Come to the Waters*.

April 6: Lydia Circle, 7:00 pm in the Conference Room (200)

April 19: Lamplighters Circle, 1:00 pm in the Library (102)

April 20: Hannah Circle, 11:30 am in Eversull Hall (104)

For more information, contact Carol Purviance, 394-8443.

Additional Dates for PW

April 29: PW Coordinating Team Meeting, 9:30 am

May 6: PW Gathering with Lunch and Program, "Tatting and Lace

GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH

Menu for April

Canned Chicken

Brown or White Rice

Canned Mixed Vegetables
(no or low salt)

Canned Fruit
(lite or in fruit juice)

Powdered Milk

Additional Items: Kid-Friendly Month

Peanut Butter

Jelly
(plastic container)

Macaroni & Cheese

*Monetary donations always welcome.
Sponsored by Presbyterian Women*

Making," 11:30 am

Bylaw Changes to Be Voted on at May 6 Gathering

In compliance with the PW Bylaws, any changes to the Bylaws must be provided in writing at least 30 days prior to the Gathering at which the vote will be taken. Therefore at our May 6 Gathering we will vote on the following changes:

ARTICLE VI, Section 1. Duties of Moderator.

Add: Moderator shall be a signer on the checking account of PW with the Treasurer.

ARTICLE VI, Section 5. The Assistant Treasurer shall serve in the capacity of the Treasurer in the absence of the Treasurer.

This section will be eliminated and subsequent sections will be renumbered.

For additional information, contact PW Moderator, Carol Purviance, 394-8443

Announcements

Faith Community Committee

May 1: 50-Year Members

During the 10:30 service, our church family will honor the 50-year members of our congregation. Join us as we celebrate those members who became a part of First Presbyterian in Belleville or First Presbyterian in East St. Louis in 1966: Jean Canale, Mary Diel, Carol Rosenkranz, Shirley and Bob Samples, and Norma Williams.

May 4: Celebration of Aging

Our First United Presbyterian honorees for the 2016 Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy Celebration of Aging are Erma Jean and Dale Vandiver. These deserving representatives will be recognized at First United on Sunday, May 1, and at the Presbytery celebration on Wednesday, May 4, at St. Mark Presbyterian Church, 601 Claymont Drive, Ballwin, Missouri. Registration and coffee hour begin at 9:00 am, and the service starts at 10:00 am. The church bus will be available for transportation; we will meet at the FUPC parking lot at 8:00 am to take the bus to the service. Immediately following the program, we will go for lunch as a church family to celebrate our honorees at the Corner Pub Grill, 15824 Fountains Plaza Drive, Chesterfield, Missouri. Please contact the church office to make a reservation for lunch and/or for transportation. The deadline for all reservations is Tuesday, April 19.

Centenarians

Each year, as part of the Celebration of Aging, we honor

our centenarians, those church members who are 100 years "young." We, as a church family, are blessed to have two members who have reached this momentous milestone: Carolyn Jackson, 105 years (9/8/1910) and Bernice Handrich, 102 years (9/26/1913). Congratulations ladies!

Rummage Sale Thank You

Thank you to all those who donated items, marked and put out items, worked "the day of," and purchased items. Also, thank you to those who helped pick up items for others. Donations for the Jewelry Ladies were much appreciated, and thank you to all who purchased restyled pieces. To our amazement, Church dishes were sold! We donated unsold items to four local shops and the St. John Bosco Center, recycled cardboard, gave shoes to the Shoeman Project, gave items to a member's students, and certainly kept many items out of a landfill. This was the second successful joint venture of the combined Helmsmen/Presbyterian Women Rummage Sale.

~ Jean Morgan, Jane Bynum, Dee & John Mann.

Trustee Action Request

To report minor repairs, please fill out a Trustee Action Request. Forms can be found in the mailbox labeled Trustee Action Request Forms. Please return completed forms to the Church Office.

Adult Discipleship

FUPC 101 (Sundays, April 3, 10, & 17)

Would you like to know our church a little better? On three consecutive Sundays, April 3, 10, and 17, Pastor Rob Dyer and others will lead a class at 9:15 am in the Vista Room (206). Week 1 will focus on "What is a Presbyterian?" and Week 2 on "Our Church Mission, Values and Goals." Week 3 will be on "Equipping Ministry and Discovering Your Gifts." For those interested in joining our church as members, this will serve as your new member introduction class. This class is for long-time members, future members, or anyone else who wants to learn more about our church.

Feasting on the Word Bible Study (Sundays)

During April, join this group at 9:15 am on Sunday mornings in the Conference Room (200) as participants study different Bible passages.

Date	Leader	Focus Scripture
April 3	TBD	John 20:19-31
April 10	Rosemary Ehrstein	John 21:1-19
April 17	Jim Nicholas	Acts 9:36-43
April 24	Kathy Schmidt	Acts 11:1-18

Parent Class (Sundays)

The Parent Class will meet during April at 9:15 am in the Library (102). Grab a cup of coffee and join the class led by Leah and Shawn Lankford. All parents and grandparents are welcome!

Women's Monthly Bible Study (Sunday, April 10)

Join Shirley Samples for this monthly Bible class for women called

Come to the Waters. This study turns to some of the water stories and images in the Bible to enable us to learn more about God and about how God would want us to live our lives. The study also draws our attention to the power of water, its potential, and its effect on our lives and culture. Shirley will use Lesson 7: "Streams of Mercy: Forgiveness." The class meets on the second Sunday of each month at 9:15 am in the Computer Lab (205). For more information, please contact Shirley Samples, 624-3340.

Women of the Word (W.O.W.) (Monday, April 18)

W.O.W., a women's Bible study, is your answer if you are looking for a group to help you keep your New Year's resolution to "Read the Bible regularly." The group meets the third Monday of the month at church in Cornell Commons. There are daily readings and weekly emails to encourage one other. The group is studying the Gospel of Matthew. Our next meeting will be Monday, April 18, at 6:30 pm; please use the Sanctuary entrance. To be added to the email list or for more information, contact Amy Abernathy, 578-9736 or ranja@charter.net.

Olympic Sunday

(Sunday, April 24)

The TIM youth will host an Olympic festival during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, April 24. This will consist of an "opening ceremony" in the Sanctuary followed by games and activities outside or inside depending on the weather. Look for more details in April bulletins!



Adult Fellowship

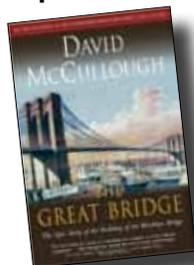
April 4: Friends Dine Out

On Monday, April 4, at 6:00 pm, our dinner group will meet at Tavern On Main, 301 E. Main Street, Belleville. Please join us! To make reservations, call Marcia Mellone, 398-9895, or Betty Bucknell, 397-2114.

April 8: Merry Mates

Merry Mates will hold a regular meeting with dinner and program on Friday, April 8, at 6:00 pm in Eversull Hall (104). The program is called "A Yankee Soldier" and will be presented by Bruce Reeder. For more information, contact Vicki McAdams, 405-227-8950.

April 13: Faith in Fiction



This month's selection is *The Great Bridge* by David McCullough, the story of the building of the Brooklyn Bridge. Throughout the fourteen years of its construction, the odds against the successful completion of the bridge seemed staggering. This is a sweeping narrative of the social climate of the time and of the heroes and rascals who had a hand in either constructing or exploiting the surpassing enterprise. In May, we will read *Last Days of Hitler* by Hugh Trevor Roper, and in June, *The Water is Wide* by Pat Conroy. Please join us at 9:00 am, on April 13,

in FirstXpression (202). Contact Susy Rybicki, 792-9458, if you need information.

April 26: Potlucks With a Purpose

All women of the church are welcome to be a part of this unique Life Group that combines *FELLOWSHIP, FOOD, and FUNDRAISING* just four times a year. If you think it might be something you would enjoy, why not give it a try on Tuesday, April 26, at 6:30 pm in the Vista Room (206). Please use the Royal Heights Road entrance for convenient access to the room. Bring a potluck dish to share. It can be anything... salad, vegetable, meat, pasta, dessert, etc. A recipe that serves 8-10 is great! Also, bring your "dining-out-dollars" (what you might spend eating at a restaurant). All donations will be given to a project decided upon that evening. If you would like to know more about our group, contact Shirley Samples, 624-3340, or sbsamples1@sbcglobal.net.



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY SAMPLES

A Season of Increase



FUPC Capital Campaign Preview

First United Presbyterian Church is moving into the future with considerable energy and excitement. We are in a *season of increase*. Average worship attendance is increasing. Service and engagement with the community are increasing. Support of local families in need is increasing. Caring efforts for our own families are increasing. Financial support of local, national, and international missions is increasing. Our spirituality is increasing as well. Through these efforts and God's blessings, we are increasing into the church we are intended to be.

Our Past Success

A key part of this *season of increase* has been the lasting effects of our last renovation effort in 2011. Since the completion of Cornell Commons, Children's Chapel, the Communications Room, new office space and the new Youth Rooms, we have seen the clear benefits that updating our facility can produce.

- In Cornell Commons, a crowd gathers each Sunday morning before and after worship, filling the church with a feeling of caring fellowship.
- The Children's Chapel has been a blessing to many families and

their children. The children are invited into meaningful experiences with God while their parents can engage in the remaining portion of the worship service.

- The Communications Room is not very exciting to visit, but the improved internet capabilities have greatly increased the ministry potential of our church in this age of technology.
- New Office space provides improved workspace for the pastor and secretaries to meet with people, coordinate, and respond efficiently to the church ministry needs.
- New Youth Rooms are filled with excitement and activity each week, providing an inviting environment for the youth of our church. Weekly activities are drawing in our own youth and their non-member friends at a higher participation level than has been seen before.

Our Next Steps Forward

The renovations completed in 2011 continue to enable our *season of increase*. It is important that we complete what we started and then look forward to what will enable our next increase. The upcoming Capital Campaign can provide the necessary steps.

Announcements

April 24: Dinner, Worship, and a Celebration!

Join UKirk - St. Louis to celebrate the first year of this Presbyterian campus ministry and to learn what God is doing in St. Louis! We will gather for dinner and worship with communion on Sunday, April 24, from 6 to 8 pm at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 6800 Washington Avenue, St. Louis. This is an "all-Presbytery" invitation; come one and all! High school seniors are especially welcome to come and learn more about UKirk, which is the national network of PC(USA) campus ministry. Please RSVP so we can be sure to provide a bountiful feast of pasta, salad, and dessert; we will be sure to have gluten-free and vegetarian options. Send your responses via our Facebook event - found at <http://tinyurl.com/jrqcn2w> - or by email to ukirkstl@gmail.com.

Sports Ministry: Something for Everyone!

- **Monday, April 18:** Softball Spring Training will commence on the FUPC Field. Newcomers welcome! Shirt, hat, and bat sponsors are all needed at \$250 each. To sponsor, contact Brian Dulski, dulskib@yahoo.com.



- **Sunday, April 24:** Come experience Bubble Ball! Bounce around, bump around, be a human ping pong ball. 2:00-4:00 pm in the Gym. Sign up on Sundays, April 10 and 17, in the Commons.

Cost: \$5; \$10 maximum per family.

- **Saturday, July 23:** Save the Date for the Beacon 5K Run and Walk at Belleville West High School.



Snow Angels

"After 10:30 service a team of over 20 spontaneous volunteers went out to the parking lot, cleared off all the car windows, pulled up wipers, escorted people to their cars, and offered valet service for others. Church being the Church for each other. Awesome." (Check out FUPC's Facebook page: "First United Presbyterian Church in Belleville, Illinois.") ~ Pastor Rob



Trivia Night Thank You

Thank you to everyone who attended, donated and helped with the 2016 Youth Ministries Trivia Night! We had a great turnout and raised \$3,469.62 to be used for youth trip scholarships! I would also like to thank the following for their contributions: Jackie & Dan Bainter, Mary Cooley, Gigi & Roger Cox, Jen & Marc DeJong, Peter Dodge, Loren Elliott, Brenda & Joe Fedak, Mandy & John Guinn, Danny Halel, Laura Hall, Norma Jackson, KIX & TIM Youth, KIX & TIM Parents, Nancy Lonsdale, MaryMarthas, Norma Mason, Merry Mates, Sheila Misselhorn, Diane Richardson, Carol Rosenkranz, Sand Dollars, Shirley & Bob Samples, Nancy Schmitt, Kathy Surgeon, Susan Ulrich, Bob Wells, Marilyn Wiltsie, Diane Winland, and Sammylane Wirth.
~ Kaitie Kautz, Director of Youth Ministries



Children & Youth Life

FaithQuest in April

Easter and Resurrection, Ascension, and What Do I Believe are the topics for FaithQuest rotations in April. FaithQuest is the Sunday morning Sunday School class for students in grades K-5. Students meet in the Sanctuary at 9:15 am for a brief opening and then move to different workshop locations.

Children's Chapel

Here in this special place of worship, children walk more slowly and talk more softly because someone might be talking to God. During the 10:30 worship service, children gather in the front of the Sanctuary with Pastor Rob for a time of sharing faith. Then, children ages 3 through 3rd grade are invited to continue their worship in Children's Chapel, a special worship space adjacent to the Sanctuary. During April, children will hear the stories of Jesus is Risen: The Road to Emmaus, Jesus Appears to Thomas, The Good Shepherd and the Wolf, and The Good Shepherd and the Lord's Supper. Children gather in God's name, hear God's Word through stories, respond to God's Word, and then receive their own blessing as they are picked up by their families.

Mark Calendars: Wednesday Summer Program for Families

On the Wednesdays of July 13, 20, and 27, the Christian Education Committee will offer a program for Family Spiritual Development. Each evening will begin with dinner at 6:00 and devotions/music at 6:30. Then for children, there will be break-out times with crafts and recreation, and for adults, sessions on developing family spiritual growth. The evening will end with an interactive activity using information gained in the adult session. The evening will end at 8:00 pm. Look for more details next month!

Youth on Wednesdays

Children and youth groups meet on Wednesdays. PYC (grades 3-5) meets from 5:15 pm – 7:30 pm; KIX (grades 6-8) and TIM (grades 9-12) meet from 6:00 pm - 8:15 pm. Dinner is included. Bus transportation to the church is available. If you need a ride, please contact Kaitie Kautz, 233-0295 x112 or kkautz@firstunitedpres.org, by 2:00 pm on Wednesday.

PYC (Presbyterian Youth Club) News (grades 3-5)

- **April 2:** PYC Mystery Trip
- **April 6, 13, 20, 27:** Regular meetings
- **April 24:** PYCers will help lead both worship services

KIX (Kids in Christ) News (grades 6-8)

- **Friday, April 8-Saturday, April 9:** KIX Extreme STL Getaway. We will be staying at the AMEN house in St Louis for a night of fun and learning. Be on the lookout for more information!
- **Sunday, April 24:** Olympic Sunday. Youth will lead both the 8:00 and 10:30 am services.

TIM (Teens in Ministry) News (grades 9-12)

- **Saturday, April 9:** The Interfaith Food Pantry is looking for "strong" volunteers. Come and display your strength and endurance from 9:00-11:00 am and have a good time helping your community!
- **Sunday, April 24:** Olympic Sunday. Youth will lead both the 8:00 and 10:30 am services.



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE FOLTZ

▲ *Congratulations to Andrew Lonsdale, Boy Scouts' newest Eagle Scout. Andrew's ceremony was held in First United's Chapel on March 13. His Eagle project was completing the concrete walkway from the Pavilion to the upper parking lot. Andrew is the son of Nancy and Bob Lonsdale.*



◀ *On a warm Wednesday afternoon in March, PYC (grades 3-5) took the games outside! The PYCers participated in team-work activities on the grassy field between the back driveway and the playground.*

Attendance and Giving

February 2016

Date	Worship Attendance	Pledges & Contributions as of February 29, 2016	
02.07.16	304	Pledged	\$51,848.50
02.14.16	178	Unpledged	5,363.00
02.21.16	255	Loose Offerings	663.00
02.28.16	276	Schnucks eScrip Cards	48.94
		Per Capita	1,707.00
		Capital Campaign	6,503.00
		Souper Bowl of Caring	705.00
		Additional Information:	
		Online Giving*	3,065.00

*The Online Giving amount is not a separate income, but is incorporated in the other income categories.

If you have questions, please contact the Budget Committee Elder, Joe Fedak, 233-1213.

Ways to Serve and Give

Last Call: Merry Mates' Plant Sale



There will be one more chance to purchase plants on Sunday, April 3. Look for order forms and a sign-up table in the Commons. Plants will be available for pick up in the Gym on Saturday, April 30, from 9:00 am until noon.

April 27: Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our group of knitters will meet on Wednesday, April 23, at 9:30 am at the home of Betty McRoberts. We are always glad to have new faces among us. For more information, call Betty, 235-3197.

Quilt Raffle to Benefit Fund

The Christian Education Committee is pleased to announce that beginning April 10 you will have the opportunity to support the Professional Church Vocations Fund. First United Quilters have once again donated a beautiful quilt to be raffled to benefit the fund. This year only 250 chances will be offered at \$5 per chance, raising \$1,250. The Professional Church Vocation Fund was established to receive gifts to assist individuals pursuing a graduate program in church-related vocations leading to an advanced degree or certification. A campaign to raise funds for this purpose is to be held yearly under the direction of the Christian Education Committee. Look for the quilt on display in Cornell Commons; this year's drawing will be held on Mother's Day, May 8.



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE FOLTZ

One Great Hour of Sharing

Once again this Easter, we will participate in this special offering. Your gift will enable the church to share God's love with our

neighbors in need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry and help to empower the poor and oppressed. You will find One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes in the pew racks in the Sanctuary and the Chapel. Please give generously. *Sharing resources changing lives. Together we can make a world of difference.*



FUPC Gardeners

First United gardeners are awaiting spring and resuming our chores on the grounds of our campus. Would you like to be a part of this group? It involves choosing a small garden space to tend through the growing season and can be done any time that fits your schedule. Please consider a role in keeping FUPC beautiful. Contact Rick and Pat Hargrove, 239-6425.

Funeral Luncheon Ministry

Providing funeral luncheons for FUPC families is one gift we can provide during a time of crisis. It enables folks to join together and share a meal, memories, tears and joy. Would you like to be a part of this ministry? The main dish is provided by the committee with salads and cakes by other volunteers. If this is something you would like to help with, call Pat Hargrove, 239-6425; Dawn Sitton, 234-1757; or Marlene Marty, 277-8809.

Compassion Day

On the fourth Saturday of each month, Project Compassion packs and delivers items to the homeless on both sides of the river. First United will help with a delivery day on May 21. However, the collection of items is ongoing: single serving items of food (granola bars, water, noodles, snack crackers, and dried fruit); personal hygiene items (wash cloths, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouth wash, deodorant, and soap). Please leave items in the marked bags on the pew outside the Sanctuary.

Announcements



Scholarship Applications

Applications for the 2016-2017 scholarships administered by the Christian Education Committee are available in the Church office. All completed applications are due no later than May 1. The following scholarships will be awarded: the Presbyterian Scholarship and Ray Angerer Scholarships to associate, bachelor, or graduate level students; the Paul Cornell Scholarship to those pursuing a Christian vocation; and the Louise Erwin Scholarship to a graduate level student in a therapy related discipline with a plan to work with children (Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech Therapy). If more information is needed, contact information is available on the applications.

April 15: Organ Concert

Our outstanding organist, Dennis Bergin, will present a solo organ concert at First United Presbyterian Church on Friday, April 15, at 7:30 pm. The concert will be performed

in the Sanctuary on the Martin Ott mechanical action organ.

The program includes:

- *Sinfonia from Cantata 29; Toccata and Fugue in D Minor BWV 565; Von Gott will ich nicht lassen (From God Shall Nothing Move Me); Prelude and Fugue in D Major BWV 532*, all by J. S. Bach
- *Allegro vivace from Organ Symphony V*, by Charles-Marie Widor
- *Variations on a Noël*, by Marcel Dupré
- *Elegy "The Rain"* (Homage to Edith Sitwell), by Dennis Bergin
- *Final from Organ Symphony III*, by Louis Vierne

The concert is free and open to the public; a reception will follow. Please invite friends and acquaintances who would enjoy an evening of organ musical masterworks!



FRIDAY, APRIL 1

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

8:15 am PYC Mystery Day
11:30 am PW Salad Luncheon
& Fashion Show

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

Last Day to Order Merry Mates' Plants

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
12:30 pm Grief Support Group

MONDAY, APRIL 4

6:00 pm Friends Dine Out
6:00 pm Woodcarvers
6:30 pm Metro East Chorale
7:00 pm Church Volleyball

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

9:30 am Quilters
9:30 am Staff Meeting
6:00 pm St. John Bosco Center
Gym Time

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

8:30 am Men's Bible Study
9:30 am Deacons' Prayer
Group
5:15 pm PYC
6:00 pm KIX & TIM, Youth
Supper
6:30 pm Wednesday Night Live
7:00 pm Lydia Circle

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

10:00 am Prayer Quilters
10:30 am Parish Nurse
1:00 pm Prime Chime
6:00 pm Illinois Heat Volleyball
7:00 pm Chancel Choir
7:00 pm Equipping Team

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

6:00 pm Illinois Heat Volleyball
6:00 pm KIX Extreme STL
Getaway
6:00 pm Merry Mates
7:00 pm MaryMarthas

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

9:00 am Youth Volunter at
Food Pantry
2:00 pm KIX Extreme STL
Getaway Group Returns

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
12:30 pm Grief Support Group

MONDAY, APRIL 11

6:00 pm Woodcarvers
6:30 pm Metro East Chorale
7:00 pm Church Volleyball
7:00 pm Trustees

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

9:30 am Quilters
9:30 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Personnel Committee
6:00 pm St. John Bosco Center
Gym Time
6:30 pm Session

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

8:30 am Men's Bible Study
9:00 am Faith in Fiction
10:00 am Library Committee
10:00 am Moms' Group
4:30 pm Evangelism
Committee
5:15 pm PYC
6:00 pm KIX & TIM Youth
Supper
6:30 pm Wednesday Night Live
7:00 pm Deacons

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

10:00 am Prayer Quilters
10:30 am Parish Nurse
1:00 PM Presbytery Meeting in
Webster Groves
1:00 pm Prime Chime
6:00 pm Illinois Heat Volleyball
7:00 pm Chancel Choir

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

**Preschool Papa John's Pizza
Fundraiser**
STEEPLE DEADLINE
6:00 pm Illinois Heat Volleyball
7:30 pm Organ Concert
(Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

6:00 pm Helmsmen

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Faith Community
12:30 pm Grief Support Group

MONDAY, APRIL 18

6:00 pm Softball Practice
6:00 pm Woodcarvers
6:30 pm Metro East Chorale
6:30 pm Women of the Word
7:00 pm Church Volleyball

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

9:15 am Preschool Class in
Children's Chapel
9:30 am Quilters
9:30 am Staff Meeting
1:00 pm Lamplighters
6:00 pm St. John Bosco Center
Gym Time
6:30 pm Joint Christian
Education & Youth Ministries
Committee

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

8:30 am Men's Bible Study
9:00 am Loaves & Fishes
9:30 am Deacons' Prayer Group
11:30 am Hannah Circle
5:15 pm PYC
5:30 pm Worship Committee
6:00 pm KIX & TIM Youth
Supper
6:30 pm Vision Committee
6:30 pm Wednesday Night Live

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

10:00 am Prayer Quilters
10:30 am Parish Nurse
Available
1:00 pm Prime Chime
6:00 pm Illinois Heat Volleyball
7:00 pm Chancel Choir

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

6:00 pm Illinois Heat Volleyball

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Olympic Sunday
8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
12:30 pm Grief Support Group
2:00 pm Sports Ministry:
Bubble Ball

MONDAY, APRIL 25

6:00 pm Stewardship
Committee
6:00 pm Woodcarvers
6:30 pm Metro East Chorale
7:00 pm Church Volleyball

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

9:30 am Quilters
9:30 am Staff Meeting
6:00 pm St. John Bosco Center
Gym Time
6:30 pm Potlucks With A
Purpose
7:00 pm Stephen Ministry

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

8:30 am Men's Bible Study
9:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
10:00 am Moms' Group
5:15 pm PYC
6:00 pm KIX & TIM Youth
Supper
6:30 pm Mission Committee
6:30 pm Wednesday Night Live

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

10:00 am Prayer Quilters
10:30 am Parish Nurse
Available
1:00 pm Prime Chime
6:00 pm Illinois Heat Volleyball
6:00 pm United Bells
7:00 pm Chancel Choir

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

9:30 am PWCT Meeting
6:00 pm Illinois Heat Volleyball

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

9:00 am Merry Mates' Flower
Pickup (Gym)

SAVE THE DATE

May 1
Celebrating
50 Year Members

May 4
Celebration of
Aging St. Mark
Presbyterian
Ballwin, Missouri

May 4
Youth Volunteer
Appreciation
Dinner

May 7
Equipping
Training Event

May 11
KIX/TIM End of
Year Parties

May 22
Honor Seniors

Church Office News

If you spent the winter elsewhere, please let the church office know when you have returned to our area. Also, for our database to serve us well, we appreciate notice of any change of address, email, or phone numbers.

First quarter statements will be mailed by Friday, April 15. If you made an Annual Pledge, please make sure the amount and frequency are correct. Contact Kristina by phone or email; her office hours are week days in the afternoon.

Legacy

Remember to include
First United in your
estate plan.

PW Honorary Life Membership Award

On Sunday, March 6, last year's recipients, Dee Palmer and Susy Rybicki, presented the 2016 Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership to Dawn Sitton. These are Dee's remarks.



PHOTO BY JAN DINSTBIER

Sunday school, and coordinated the Moveable Feast. As if this hasn't and doesn't keep her busy, if there is a funeral or memorial service, she coordinates the meal. In her spare time, she fulfills her job, which isn't a small one, of being Clerk of Session.

We are sure you have guessed by now, our Presbyterian Woman of the Year is Dawn Sitton."

"Good morning. I am Dee Palmer and this is Susy Rybicki. We are here to present the Honorary Life Membership award to a most deserving woman of this congregation.

Besides being a wife, mother and homemaker, which we all know is a full-time job, she found time to be very active in the school her children attended. She is also active in her P.E.O. Chapter.

This honoree is a long time member of First United. She is an ordained Elder, has served as a counter, worked in the crib room for many years, helped with child care for the young Moms' Group, worked in and was in charge of Vacation Bible School for several years. She has been a sponsor for a confirmand, helped teach youth

The pin presented to Dawn has caring hands which represent women who seek to build an inclusive community. The leaf represents growth of our personal life as we nurture our faith. The dove indicates our work for peace in our own lives and throughout the world. At the center is a cross. The overall design is that of a butterfly, the symbol of newness in Christ and the emergence of a new creation.



Gifts of Women

On March 6, during Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday, First United had all women participating in the services: Rev. Miriam Foltz as Pastor, ushers, Elders serving communion; and an all-women choir. God has blessed us with many fine women with many wonderful gifts.



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE FOLTZ



**FIRST UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN**

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Upcoming Capital Campaign



A Season of Increase

Let us complete
what has been started and
continue this increase
into the church
God has intended us to be.

Preview on page 6