



The Carbondale Presbyterian

Editor: Lisa C. Hollabaugh (firstpresnews@gmail.com) / www.firstpresdale.org
First Presbyterian Church / 310 S. University Avenue / Carbondale, Illinois 62901
(618) 549-2148 / Find us on Facebook - First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale IL

Thank you Carlyn Zimmermann for seventeen years of good and faithful service to First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale.

Sunday Worship 10 am
w/Children's Church School & Childcare
Worship Zoom ID 824 8455 3329
Followed by **Coffee Fellowship**

Wednesday Bible Study Classes
10 am w/Bill & J.P. (Lounge)
3:30 pm w/Pastor Kerry (Zoom)
6:30 pm w/Rev. Beyler (Conf. Rm.)

First Sunday Collection for Local Missions January 5

Free Laundry Day January 8
10 am-2 pm at Laundry World

Take down Christmas decorations January 11 9:30 am

Puzzle Party & Snacks
January 12 2-4 pm Fellowship Hall

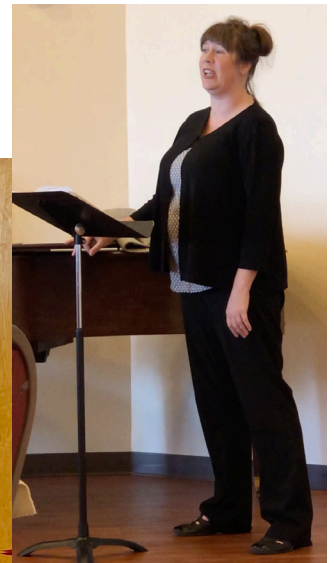
Session Meeting January 14 7 pm

Presbyterian Women Meeting
January 21 1 pm

Congregational Meeting
January 26 after Worship

Men's Fellowship Meeting
January 30 12 noon

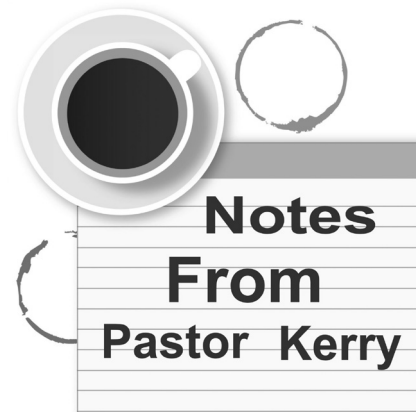
Church Office Hours
Monday through Thursday
9:00-11:30 a.m. and
12:30-4:00 p.m.



Making It Count

Happy New Year, everyone!

I hope that this coming year is filled with things that bring you joy and peace--and a little prosperity, to boot. If it's like most years, I'm sure there will be highs and lows, good times and bad. I'll admit I'm concerned about what the new executive and legislative branches of our federal government may do in 2025, but that is more of a personal matter than pastoral. Mostly, I believe I am looking forward to what the next 365 days have to bring--and I hope you are, as well.



I have a couple of resolutions to share with you as we begin this new year. First, I resolve not to over-remind you that this is my last year as your Covenant Pastor. I want to strike the right balance between exiting gracefully and staying engaged as the pastoral leader of the congregation. We will definitely be in the midst of transition together, but (as they say), moderation in all things.

Second, I'm resolving to be as relaxed in spirit as I can be for these next fifty-two weeks. This is more of a challenge than you may think, because we *all* will be in transition. Church issues that haven't been attended to will start demanding attention. As the session and Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) work on items like a church dossier for the upcoming search (including the pastor's terms of call), some challenging conversations about the future direction of the congregation will need to take place...and so on.

Meanwhile, I'll also be working on what my upcoming retirement will look like. Where will we be living? What will I do with my time? My hope and intention is to be as calm and serene as I can be. I want to enjoy these coming days, weeks and months.

Do you have any resolutions or changes in habit you hope to live into in this new year? If so, let me know. We can cheer each other on--and hold each other accountable. --Kerry

P.S.: I also resolve to write only eleven more "Notes from Kerry" articles.

Children's Church School had fun in December learning about Jesus's birth and assembling a gingerbread Nativity. This month we'll learn about Jesus's baptism, the beatitudes, and some parables. Join us Sunday mornings following the Children's Sermon.



Puzzle Party
Sunday, January 12, 2025
2-4 pm Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 12, 2025 from 2-4 pm in Fellowship Hall join us for snacks and conversation as we assemble 300-500 piece jigsaw puzzles (provided or bring your own). Child-appropriate puzzles will be available.

December 10, 2024 our cooking team served lunch to forty guests at Bethel AME Feed My Sheep and delivered lunch and dinner to the Warming Center. Thank you to everyone who has donated funds enabling us to augment canned goods with produce, meat and other fresh food items. Thanks also to our stellar **cooking team** (Jan Danley, Marta Davis, Liz DiLalla, Jill Hertzog, Dori Jefferson, Kathy Manfredi, Brenda Myers, Jane Swanson and Lily Vucinic), **delivery team** (Beth Corker and Rolanda Quick with help from Lisa Hollabaugh), and **pantry organizer** (Ann Warner). We're fortunate to be involved in this community effort.



AFGHAN FAMILY UPDATES

As she searches for regular employment, **Sheeba is providing alterations and engaging in other sewing projects** (contact her between 4-8 pm weekdays or 8 am-12 pm on Saturday). **Sheeba needs rides** to and from the Eurma Hayes Center on Monday and Wednesday afternoons between 1-3 pm. She and other English language learners in our community could also use rides to and from a new English Language class at John A. Logan College Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-3 pm beginning January 7, 2025. Contact Cindy Buys or Pat Manfredi for more information.

Carbondale Area Interfaith Refugee Support (CAIRS) has formally incorporated and applied for 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. Cindy Buys and Pat Manfredi were both elected officers of CAIRS, which anticipates settling 2-3 more Afghan families in the Carbondale area over the next several months. The Mission Ministry recently voted to donate the local portion of the Peace & Global Witness PCUSA Special Offering (\$1,335) to CAIRS in support of its ongoing refugee resettlement efforts.



The December 2024 **Free Laundry Day** served 37 guests--a slightly smaller crowd than usual. Thanks to donated quarters from community members (including Wenona Whitfield, pictured at left with Jane Swanson) and contributions from the Alternative Gift Fair, the program has enough cash on hand for the next two months.

The next Free Laundry Day is Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at Laundry World in Carbondale. Contact Bill Martens or Jane at carbondalelaundryproject@gmail.com if you're interested in volunteering. Great work by everyone involved!



Sunday, January 5, 2025 we'll collect for local missions including the Good Samaritan Food Pantry, the Carbondale Warming Center, Feed My Sheep at Bethel AME, the Carbondale Laundry Project, and the SI Diaper Bank. Look for the shopping carts in the entryway.

Thank you to all who adorned the **Socks and Mittens Tree** with hats, gloves, scarves, socks and mittens which will be donated to local schools.



FIRST SUNDAY



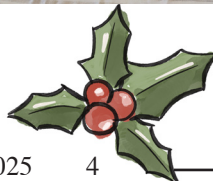
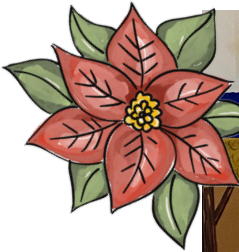
ADVENT 2024

Advent readers and candle-lighters included Beth Malmquist and Wendi Zea; Pam Holt and Diane Cash; Mary Jane and Jay Brooks; Judy, Keith, Jewel and Ruby Beyler; and Savana Hernandez and Merit and Siena Sullivan.



CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

Sunday, December 1, 2024 we learned about Christmas traditions of Bethlehem, Mexico, Sweden and Poland before enjoying a bountiful potluck lunch. Thank you to Judy and Keith Beyler, Jane Swanson, Kitty Trescott, Pastor Kerry and all the volunteers who contributed to this memorable gathering.





Our first semester of the **Presbyterian Preschool** went by quickly. Last month we enjoyed our annual Christmas Sing where students sang special songs for their parents, family and friends. Afterwards, we enjoyed a potluck with plenty of time to visit with each other.

We look forward to the coming months as we continue to learn and grow with new friends. The Frog class will be learning about winter and will begin its cultural study unit on Asia, celebrating the Chinese New Year of the Snake. We love learning about different cultures as it helps strengthen children's positive sense of self and identity.

The First Presbyterian Church Mission Ministry voted to donate a portion of the Pentecost PCUSA Special Offering, intended to support youth, to Presbyterian Preschool teachers as a year-end bonus.



January 15, 2025 at 10:30 am, Sandy Pensoneau-Conway, Ph.D. (she/her) will discuss "***Navigating Pronouns with Openness and Compassion***" at the **Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement (SILIR)** monthly presentation. Dr. Pensoneau-Conway is an Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator in SIUC's School of Communication Studies.

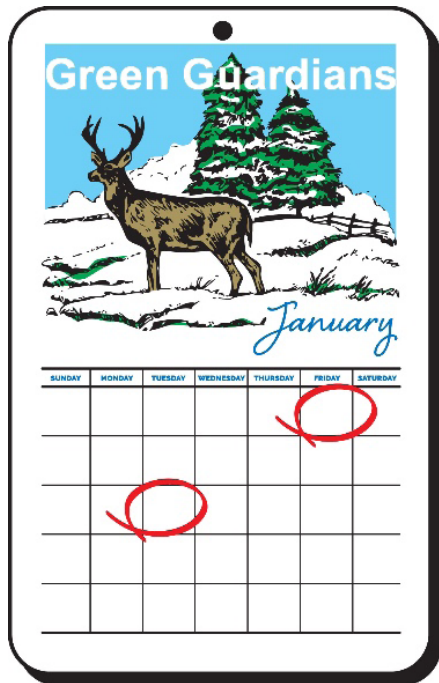
The 10:30 am presentation, held at Epiphany Lutheran Church at 1501 West Chautauqua in Carbondale, is free and open to the public and follows a 9:30 am coffee hour. If you have questions about SILIR membership, call the Events and Outreach office at (618) 536-7751, email silir@siu.edu, or visit conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir.

- We opened the December 2024 meeting of the session with prayer and a short devotional reading.
- I reported that as new terms were being negotiated for next year, Carlyn Zimmermann chose not to renew her contract as Music Director. The session voted to honor Carlyn during December 22, 2024 worship and asked me as Head of Staff to lead the process of searching for and hiring a new Music Director.



Session Synopsis

- Contributions and 2025 pledge giving were less than hoped for (primarily due to decreased membership), so the session revisited previous budget discussions and cut projected 2025 expenses by \$15,118.00. **2025 Budget information will be available for the congregation to review and discuss at the Annual Congregational Meeting following worship on January 26, 2025.**
- The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been elected, the Nominating Committee will be searching for Elders and Deacons to begin serving in 2025, a Christmas bonus was approved for the Preschool staff, and regular business (minutes, team reports) was attended to. We closed in prayer. —Kerry



The **Green Guardians** invite you to learn about the origins, importance and recommended activities associated with the following January 2025 dates.

- January 1: Make a Green New Year's Resolution Day
- January 4: Perihelion Day
- January 5: National Bird Day = World Migratory Bird Day
- January 6: Apple Tree Day
- January 10: National Cut Your Energy Cost Day
- January 10: National Save the Eagles Day
- January 19: Tenderness Toward Existence Day
- January 20: National Penguin Awareness Day
- January 21: Squirrel Appreciation Day
- January 25: Observe the Weather Day
- January 26: International Environmental Education Day
- January 28: International Reducing CO2 Emissions Day
- January 31: International Zebra Day

Do you usually make a New Year's resolution? Do you keep it? The **Green Guardians** encourage you to plan for your impact on the environment in 2025 by considering this information from "52 Ways to Care for Creation" at Creation Justice Ministries (creationjustice.org):

- For the new year, make a green resolution to make eco-conscious choices. Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day in Carbondale to reflect on social justice and creation justice. Do a book study by yourself or with a group on an eco topic.
- Rethink your habits around plastics (re-usable water bottles, for example) and water use. Recycle flexible plastics as illustrated on the Green Guardians bulletin board.
- Repetition turns a new practice into a habit. Work with a friend from church, or elsewhere, or a family member to think it out. Pass your ideas down to your kids and grandkids.
- The **Climatehero** carbon footprint calculator at <https://carbon-calculator.climatehero.org> is easy to read on screen and considers electricity usage, transportation, and shopping habits. Check to see if you are a Climate Friend or Climate Hero (ask Ann Warner if you have questions).



Contributions to First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale are tax deductible under 501(c)(3) guidelines (consult your tax professional). Donate on Sunday mornings, by direct deposit or mail, by clicking the "Give Now" button at firstpresdale.org or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera.

Financial Report November 2024

92% of the year completed

Line	Income YTD	Budgeted	
Pledges	\$ 197,474.00	\$ 220,000.00	90%
Nonpledge Offerings	\$ 9,519.42	\$ 12,000.00	79%
Per Capita	\$ 1,860.00	\$ 1,500.00	124%
Transfer From Investments	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 41,371.01	60%
Miscellaneous	\$ 17,673.72	\$ 19,225.00	92%
Total Income	\$ 251,527.14	\$ 294,096.01	86%

Line	Expenditures YTD	Budgeted	
Mission	\$ 9,956.63	\$ 13,770.00	72%
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 78,805.10	\$ 88,573.99	89%
Staff	\$ 76,146.76	\$ 88,577.02	86%
Faith Development	\$ 1,755.25	\$ 3,050.00	58%
Worship & Music	\$ 764.90	\$ 3,475.00	22%
Comm/Administration	\$ 12,962.91	\$ 18,150.00	71%
Property/Capital	\$ 74,653.06	\$ 76,100.00	98%
Christian Nurture	\$ 1,265.74	\$ 2,400.00	53%
Total Expenditures	\$ 256,310.35	\$ 294,096.01	87%

Revenues over Expenses	\$ (4,783.21)
-------------------------------	----------------------

Birthdays	Anniversaries
January 12 Carol Good	January 10 David & Ann Warner
January 16 Carol King	January 26 Lisa Hollabaugh & Rolanda Quick
January 17 Reona Daly & Jenny Prest	
January 19 Jim Milford	
January 20 Phyllis Beck	
January 21 Brenda Gilbert	
January 27 Carly Calloway-Tesch & Martha Peters	

If we missed your special day, please accept our apologies and notify the church office so we can update our records.

Birthdays & Anniversaries



First Presbyterian Church
Carbondale, Illinois

310 S. University Ave., Carbondale, IL 62901

Phone: (618) 549-2148 Fax: (618) 549-6423

Church office: office@firstprescdale.org

Website: www.firstprescdale.org

Pastor: Rev. Kerry Bean (pastorkerry@firstprescdale.org)



 **JANUARY** 2025



The first wedding held in the new church in 1908, was that of Edith Entsminger to Everett V. Miller.

On May 31, 1909, Miss Helen Peters was granted \$200 per year as choir director. Edwin P. Purdy directed the choir following Miss Peters.

Mrs. Arthur G. Purdy was organist for a while and her husband, Dr. Purdy, sometimes would play the trombone. Other organists who served the church at various times were George Brush, Dora Brubaker, and Margaret Fox Clemens.