



The Carbondale Presbyterian

Editor: Linda Brandon / firstpresnews@gmail.com / www.firstprescdale.org
First Presbyterian Church 310 S. University Avenue Carbondale IL 62901
Find us on Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale IL

Sunday Worship - 9:30 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m.
Faith Dialogues resumes Feb. 18

Bible Study with Bill & JP~Lounge
Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study with Kerry~via Zoom
Wednesdays 3:30 p.m.

“First Sunday” February 4

“Souper Bowl of Caring”
Fundraiser February 11

Session Meeting February 13

Free Laundry Day February 14

Ash Wednesday Service
February 14 6:00 p.m.

Dinner Group~Flame
February 15 5:30 p.m.

“Coldest Night of the Year”
Fundraiser February 24

“Come From Away”~Sanctuary
February 25 6:00 p.m.

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

Phone Extensions
Rev. Bean 101
Barb 100
Carlyn 106
SI Diaper Bank 110

**coldest
*night
OF THE YEAR**

february 24, 2024
coldest night of the year

more information on page 5 & 6



Hijinx and Folderol "On the Air"

Coming April 28, 2024 to the First Presbyterian Church sanctuary is the first (and no doubt last) performance of the radio-style production of **Intrepid Inspector Iona of Interpol and the Brief Case of the Missing Briefcase**.

"Radio-style" means that microphones will be set up at the front of the sanctuary; the cast will perform the show as if broadcasting on the airwaves. There will be no sets, costume changes or fancy lighting...just the actors, scripts, and a whole mess of sound effects.

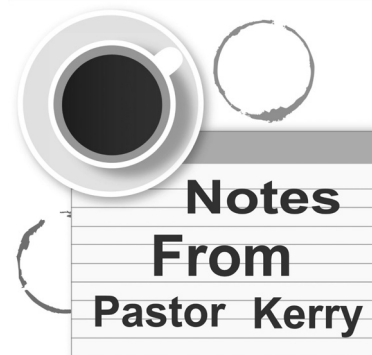
The idea behind this show is to make everything as simple as possible--just a few rehearsals, scripts always at hand, and no blocking, memorization or choreography. Absolutely no experience is necessary. Rehearsals will be held Sunday afternoons in April.

As usual, this production is being staged to help raise funds for a worthy cause--this time it is for our own Carbondale Laundry Project. Donations will be accepted at the door and will be shamelessly solicited over Zoom as well.

You'll be able to watch the production live and in person in the sanctuary, or on Zoom. Immediately afterwards, we'll enjoy desserts and beverages in the Fellowship Hall. The show will go "on air" at 6:00 p.m. and we should be done and munching on delectable desserts no later than 7:15 p.m. (That's why it's a "brief" case, don't you know.) Thanks as usual to the Mission Ministry for supporting all this serious silliness.

I'll have a sign-up sheet available if you'd like to be in the cast. If you are interested in helping with the production or donating some tasty treats for dessert, please sign up or send me a note at pastorkerry@firstprescdale.org. It should be more fun than Presbyterians are allowed!

Kerry





Worship with us during Lent

“All that you dreamed but didn’t dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the Faith that you claimed but did not have—these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.” From *I Am the New Year*

This poem quote can be considered a guide for the Worship Ministry as we face the new calendar year with a sense of energy and purpose. We strive to create relevant and stimulating worship experiences which draw on “tried and true” traditions, but which also explore new ideas dreamed and hoped for, that are just waiting to be awakened.

You may have noticed the new **Offering Cards** in the pew backs. Especially for those of us who donate electronically or prepay their pledge, placing these cards in the offering plate Sunday mornings symbolizes our gift of ourselves not only monetarily, but also through our time and talents as stewards of God’s creation. (The card also contains the QR code to make an online contribution using your smart phone or tablet.)

The Lenten season begins **Ash Wednesday**, February 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., when we’ll observe a service “in the round” at the rear of the sanctuary, take communion and receive Imposition of Ashes. Holy Week activities kick off **Palm Sunday**, March 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. we will mark the Last Supper with our **Maundy Thursday** service when we will share a simple soup and bread meal in the Fellowship Hall, followed by a brief worship service. ***If you are willing to provide a simple lentil or bean soup or loaf of bread, please contact Kathy Manfredi or Wendi Zea.***

Holy Week observations conclude with our **Easter Sunday** celebration March 31, 2024 at 9:30 a.m..

Pastor Kerry is vacationing in early February. **Pulpit supply** will be provided by Pat Manfredi on February 4, 2024 and Judy Beyler on February 11, 2024.

The choir will perform on the following Sundays: February 4, 11 & 25 and March 3, 10, 24 & 31. If you would like to sing with the choir, please reach out to Carlyn Zimmermann for sheet music and rehearsal details.

As you ponder this month’s activities and news items, we hope you will consider **volunteering for some of our worship positions**. We are in particular need of **Zoom Hosts** (really quite an easy task!) and **Ushers**.

We end with another quote from our New Year poem: ***“I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him who said, ‘Behold, I make all things new.’”*** ~ Worship Ministry Team



Faith Dialogues will resume on February 18, 2024. The topic for Lent will be forgiveness. The primary resource for our discussion will be *Forgiveness* by Richard L. Killmer. Copies of this material will be available in church.

We will also move to an "in-person only" format and will meet in the Lounge (formerly known as the Youth Room). This decision was made in recognition of dwindling Zoom participation and in hopes of promoting a better environment for discussion. The time remains 10:45 a.m.

The bitter January weather coupled with gymnastics and wrestling tournaments made church school difficult for our busy youth. We are hopeful that, moving forward, more students will learn as we explore some of Jesus' parables and other teachings about God and God's kingdom.

Be on the lookout during Lent for a new group of caterpillars that we hope will turn into butterflies in time for Easter!



**CHILDREN'S
SUNDAY SCHOOL**



Last month a small but convivial group of eight enjoyed fine food and good conversation at El Paisano. We'll meet for an almost-Valentine's day gathering at **Flame Grill & Bar February 15, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.** We'd love to have some new or returning friends join us; reserve a spot at jillhertzing@aol.com.



The **Coldest Night of the Year** fundraiser to support the Carbondale Warming Center is entering the final stretch. As of the date this article was submitted, the Warming Center has reached only 30% of its overall goal of \$60,000.

Our church team, the Presbyterians, has reached 46% of our \$10,000.00 goal. So far, we are in the lead among all the Carbondale teams, and we're also top in the nation for fundraising among faith organizations...but that will continue to change daily.

If you have already sponsored one or more walkers, thank you. If you haven't yet contributed, now is the time to help us meet our goal. **All donations must be received prior to the February 24, 2024 walk date.**

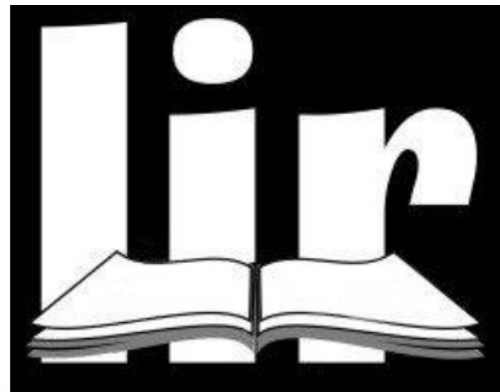
To sponsor the team or a walker(s), go to **enoy.com** and search for Presbyterians or a walker's name. If you prefer to write a check or give cash, contact a walker directly: Cindy Buys, Elizabeth Hamilton, Peter Hertzog, Lisa Hollabaugh, Sarah Merideth, Jane Swanson or Ann Warner.

If you have any questions, contact team captain Sarah Merideth at smmerideth@gmail.com or (618) 967-4408.

Help us keep vulnerable members of our community safe and warm. Thank you for your support!

Cary Minnis, Executive Director of the Greater Egypt Regional Planning and Development Commission will speak at the February 21, 2024 meeting of Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement. He will describe the Planning and Development Commission and discuss the type of research that must be conducted before public projects in southern Illinois can be approved.

The meeting, free and open to the public, starts at 10:30 a.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, 220 Tower Road. A coffee hour begins at 9:30 a.m. For any questions, please contact the SIUC Events and Outreach office (618) 536-7751 or email silir@siu.edu.



**S.I. Learning
in Retirement**

MISSION Updates

CARBONDALE LAUNDRY PROJECT

Demand for Free Laundry Day remains strong: Last month, volunteers served 55 guests and spent \$540.00 in quarters. The next Free Laundry Day is Valentine's Day, February 14, 2024; what a great way to show love for our community! To volunteer, contact Jane Swanson or Bill Martens (carbondaellaundryproject@gmail.com).

Good news! Tru Earth is donating three boxes of bulk laundry strips; each box contains 3528 eco-strips, for a total of 10,584 eco-strips--that's a whole lot of clean laundry! You can help by purchasing Tru Earth Laundry strips at church or online at <https://tru-earth.sjv.io/CarbondaleLaundryProject>. Proceeds will offset the expense of using washers and dryers on Free Laundry Days.



FEBRUARY "FIRST SUNDAY"

On First Sunday, February 4, 2024, we'll focus on collecting Pop-Tarts for the Gum Drops program to give to children on days when school is out. We'll also support our local missions: the Good Samaritan Food Pantry, the Carbondale Warming Center, Feed My Sheep at Bethel AME, the PCDC Daycare and Preschool, the Carbondale Laundry Project and the Diaper Bank. We'd especially appreciate cans of soup in honor of "Souper Bowl" Sunday!



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Sunday February 11, 2024 is the "Souper Bowl of Caring"—a national fundraising effort to tackle hunger. Look for soup pots outside the sanctuary and in Fellowship Hall to make a contribution. All funds will go to the Good Samaritan Food Pantry.

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

Don't forget to support church members and friends walking with the "Presbyteamians" team raising funds for the Carbondale Warming Center during the "Coldest Night of the Year" event (see article on page 5). Donate online no later than February 24, 2024 at <https://cnoy.com/location/carbondale> (search for Presbyteamians or the walker's name).

PC(USA) SPECIAL OFFERINGS

\$1,375.00 was collected through the 2023 Pentecost Offering, which will support the Gum Drops program which provides food for children on weekends and other non-school days. The Christmas Joy Offering netted \$3,248.00, and another \$288.00 was collected for our Brother's/Neighbor's Keeper fund. Thank you for your generosity!



Last month, longtime church member **Imogene Beckemeyer** participated in the dedication of her newly-renovated house in Carbondale which was donated to Habitat for Humanity. A pastor blessed the home and its new inhabitants (pictured above with Imogene) while a house full of volunteers and supporters welcomed the family and celebrated Imogene's generosity. Photo: Brenda Myers.



We began our January 9, 2024 meeting of the session with a prayer and a devotional reading before discussing and deciding on several items.

We approved replacement of the broken HVAC unit servicing the Preschool area of the building (there are 3-4 units with faulty heart exchangers that will also need to be replaced).

We received an update from the Nominating Committee.

I shared an update on the process of addressing several Daycare program issues including small enrollment and staff size. This was further discussed with the congregation at the January 28, 2024 Annual Meeting.

We agreed—with sadness—to Bob Luebbbers' request for a transfer in membership to the Eastern Orthodox church in Royalton.

We added additional signatories to the church and daycare checking accounts.

We approved the Statistical Report that goes to the Presbytery and on to General Assembly. Ministry reports, minutes and financial reports were approved, and the session also granted my request for about 12 days of vacation in late-January and early February. (I'll be back in the office February 12, 2024.)

We closed with prayer. ~ Kerry



Join us in the sanctuary Sunday, **February 25, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** for ***Come from Away***, the hit award-winning Broadway musical which tells the inspiring true story of Operation Yellow Ribbon. After the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, 38 planes were diverted from the United States to a tiny "rock" in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. The people of Gander, Newfoundland and surrounding areas welcomed these strangers and over the next five days, lives were transformed by the kindness of the townsfolk who opened their homes and hearts.

All are welcome, but please be advised that due to mild profanity and mature themes, parental discretion is recommended for viewers under the age of 13 years old. You're invited to bring drinks and snacks (individual or to share) as we enjoy an evening of song, fun and community.



With several HVAC units out of commission, last month's freezing temperatures led to busted pipes in the Education wing. Facilities Elder **James Prest** (below) and his sons **Elwood** (left) and **Joseph** (right) spent several days (and nights!) assessing damage, cleaning up and monitoring heaters placed to prevent more freezing. ***Thank you!***



Photos: Rolanda Quick

PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

The Preschool sends lots of love this February!



Working together to build a big building.

Last month we missed some school because it was so cold out! We had fun adventures with our families and played in the snow.

The Frog class enjoyed our Chinese New Year celebration, eating noodles with chopsticks and performing the traditional dragon parade for family and friends. We have been working on shapes, different art projects and overall getting back into the swing of school.

In February, the Frog class will continue their cultural study of South America. Learning about other countries and cultures is a wonderful way to expand the minds and hearts of our youngest learners for the big world around them.

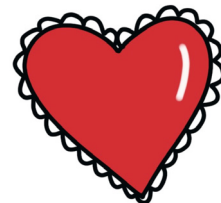
Our students will also be learning about rainforests, friendship and celebrating Valentine's Day and have a wacky and exciting themed week. The Tadpole and Polliwog classes will be working on numbers and counting, the five senses, friendship, and a Valentine's celebration.

PCDC DAYCARE

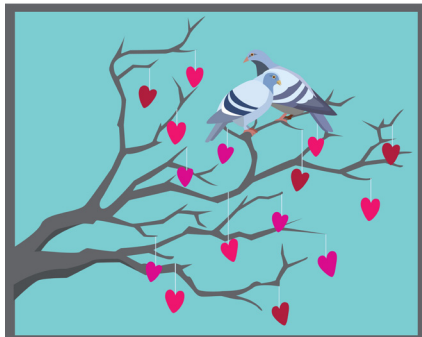
Happy New Year from your friends at the Daycare! The little ones have been enjoying being back in session after our holiday break. Last month, they enjoyed learning about arctic animals, good hygiene practices, food groups/nutrition, and doing cooking fun.

This month we look forward to celebrating Black History month, Valentine's Day, President's Day/US presidents, and community helpers. The children will talk about the things they love, have a little party and exchange valentines for Valentine's Day. In addition to the themes, the littlest ones are working on rolling over, sitting up and crawling. Lots of exciting things!

We wish everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and send warm wishes in the month ahead!



FEBRUARY



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

- 2/3 Lisa Hollabaugh
- 2/6 Kerry Bean, David King
- 2/7 Brenda Myers
- 2/9 Sara Squires
- 2/15 Emily Timpe
- 2/15 David Warner
- 2/19 Jerre Pfaff
- 2/24 Mary Jane Brooks
- 2/26 Frances Gilman
- 2/27 Elwood Prest

ANNIVERSARY

- 2/3 Grover Leech & Tracy Prosser

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

rainbow cafe PRESENTS... **TRIVIA NIGHT** \$15 PER PERSON
UP TO 8 PER TEAM BRING ONE OR JOIN ONE
MARCH 15, 2024 DOORS OPEN AT: 5:30PM GAME STARTS AT: 6:00PM
LOCATION: TBA
CASH PRIZES FOR TOP 3 TEAMS
MULLIGANS B.Y.O. FOOD & DRINK *** MINI-GAMES SNACKS & DRINKS FOR \$\$

Save the Date SOUTHERN ILLINOIS PRIDE COLLECTIVE
Southern Illinois' PRIDE WEEKEND
Carbondale, IL
June 7-9
2024

Transgender Day of Visibility SOUTHERN ILLINOIS TRANS RESOURCE FAIR & TDOV Parade!
SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH RAINBOW CAFE LGBTQ CENTER



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 www.firstprescdale.org or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera.

Financial Report Decemberr 2023

100% of the year completed

Line	Income	Budget	
Pledges	\$ 228,921.77	\$ 226,700.00	101%
Nonpledge Offerings	\$ 13,562.39	\$ 5,000.00	271%
Per Capita	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 2,200.00	73%
Trans. From Investments	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 37,736.96	26%
Miscellaneous	\$ 18,417.69	\$ 16,830.00	109%
Totals	\$ 272,501.85	\$ 288,466.96	94%
Line	Expenditures	Budget	
Mission	\$ 13,170.37	\$ 13,270.00	99%
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 83,979.37	\$ 86,428.19	97%
Staff	\$ 79,275.92	\$ 87,179.77	91%
Christian Education	\$ 1,612.80	\$ 3,050.00	53%
Worship & Music	\$ 1,592.22	\$ 3,475.00	46%
Comm/Administration	\$ 17,437.85	\$ 19,064.00	91%
Property/Capital	\$ 77,738.88	\$ 74,100.00	105%
Christian Nurture	\$ 1,547.75	\$ 1,900.00	81%
Total	\$ 276,355.16	\$ 288,466.96	96%
Revenues over Expenses	\$ (3,853.31)		



The choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.

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



First Presbyterian Church
Carbondale, Illinois

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Email: office@firstprescdale.org (Church Office)

Web Address: www.firstprescdale.org

Pastor: Rev. Kerry Bean, Email: pastorkerry@firstprescdale.org



 **FEBRUARY**
2024



The first sermon at the First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale was delivered in 1852 in an unfinished log cabin. By 1856, with the help of Daniel Brush, one of the founders of Carbondale, the church had found a new home at what is now 210 West Monroe.