

The Chimes

February 2015

Volume 62 Number 2

A Church with a Heart

in the Heart of the city.

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FEBRUARY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Souper Bowl Offering 8:30 AM Choir practice 9:15 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 11:00 AM Shining Stars 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Volleyball 5:30 PM Pastor's Adult Bible Study/Youth Group	2 5:30 PM CE/Outreach Team Meeting 6:00 PM Facilities Meeting	3 12:30 PM Knit Wits 1:00 PM PDG 6:00 PM Deacons	4 10:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study 1:00 PM Meshach BIBLE Study 7:30 PM Choir practice	5 9:30 AM Rachel Circle 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting	6 9:00 AM Girl Scout delivery	7 7:30 AM Men's Group/Charlotte's 6:00 PM College Age Bible Study
8 Annual Meeting 8:30 AM Choir practice 9:15 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Volleyball 5:30 PM Pastor's Adult Bible Study/Youth Group	9 5:30 PM Communications 6:30 PM Finance Ministry Meeting	10 10:30 AM Ruth Circle 1:00 PM PDG 6:00 PM Personnel Team Meeting-CE Room	11 10:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study 1:00 PM Meshach BIBLE Study 6:00 PM Worship Team Meeting 7:00 PM Spirit & Truth Practice 7:30 PM Choir practice	12 9:30 AM Rachel Circle 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting	13	14 5:00 PM Spirit & Truth 6:00 PM College Age Bible Study
15 Blood Pressure checks Wedding Anniversary Sunday 8:30 AM Choir practice 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Blood Drive 9:15 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Volleyball 5:30 PM Pastor's Adult Bible Study/Youth Group	16 CHIMES DEADLINE	17 12:30 PM Knit Wits 1:00 PM PDG 6:30 PM Session	18 ASH WEDNESDAY 10:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study 12:00 PM Ash Wed. Service 1:00 PM Meshach BIBLE Study 3:15 PM Comfort My People 5:30 PM Ash Wed. Worship/Supper 6:00 PM AIW 7:00 PM Spirit & Truth Practice 7:30 PM Choir practice	19 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Mental Health Support Group	20 Primetimers 9:00 AM Girl Scout delivery	21 9:00 AM Dinner Theatre Set up 5:00 PM Spirit & Truth
22 8:30 AM Choir practice 9:15 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 2:00 PM Worship at Hawthorne 5:00 PM Youth Dinner Theatre	23	24 12:30 PM Knit Wits 1:00 PM PDG	25 10:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study 1:00 PM Meshach BIBLE Study 7:00 PM Spirit & Truth Practice 7:30 PM Choir practice	26 12:30 PM Fold Chimes 2:00 PM Lydia Circle	27 9:00 AM Girl Scout delivery 6:00 PM King's Choralliers Concert	28 5:00 PM Spirit & Truth 6:00 PM College Age Bible Study
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POST IT NOW!

Classifieds

HELP WANTED!

The Chancel Guild needs your help. See Judy Iverson to sign up for a team.

USHERS NEEDED!

We are in need of a few good ushers! Inquire with Pastor Jimmy or any one of the usher captains.



Plug In

it's YOUR church

Sign-up sheets are in the Lounge. Sign up Today!

GREETER COORDINATOR NEEDED

If you would be willing to be the Greeter Coordinator please see Pastor Jimmy.

- FPC Meetings*
- Feb. 2 5:30 PM CE/Outreach Team Meeting
 - 6:00 PM Facilities/Witness Team Meetings
 - Feb. 3 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting
 - Feb. 7 7:30 AM Men's Group
 - Feb. 8 **ANNUAL MEETING**
 - Feb. 9 5:30 PM Communications Ministry Team
 - 6:30 PM Finance Ministry Team Meeting
 - Feb. 10 6:00 PM Personnel Team Meeting
 - Feb. 11 6:00 PM Worship Team Meeting
 - Feb. 12 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting
 - Feb. 16 **CHIMES DEADLINE**
 - Feb. 17 6:30 PM Session
 - Feb. 18 **ASH WEDNESDAY**
 - 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service
 - 3:15 PM Comfort My People
 - 5:30 PM Ash Wednesday Supper
 - 6:00 PM Adventures in Worship Meeting
 - Feb. 22 5:00 PM Youth Dinner Theatre
 - Feb. 27 6:00 PM King's Choralliers Concert



Dr. Jimmy's Spiritual Rx: "Love and Lent:" Luke 23:32-34 and 1 Corinthians 13, Colossians 3:12-17, & 1 John 4

When we think of Valentine's Day, we often think about heart-shaped cards, chocolate candy, and flowers. We also associate the day with "love," that unseen aspect of humanity that is just as real as anything we can physically see. A basic definition of love goes something like, When the concern or need of someone or something else becomes as important or more important than one's own concerns or needs, then a state of love exists.

In the English language, we have just a single word for love, but in Greek, there are actually four words used in describing love in its different forms. Space does not permit a detailed discussion of all the Greek words for love, but I find it interesting that the most frequently used word for love in the Greek New Testament, "agape," is the least frequently used in classical Greek. I wonder why?

Maybe like today, love was understood in ancient times as simply a noun, or something you feel or get. But in the thinking of the New Testament writers, Agape/Love is a verb. This calls to mind teachings in Deuteronomy 6 that Jesus would later echo in his teachings concerning loving God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and loving our neighbors as ourselves. And, twelve times in 1 Corinthians 13 love is described by verbs and terms of action, while in 1 John 4 our profession of loving God can in fact become a lie if we hate our brothers and sisters. Agape love is therefore a deliberate act of the will and not just an emotional reaction or love for only persons who are either family or in other ways, "are just like us."

What is significant about the occurrence of Valentine's Day each year is that frequently the season of Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday, also begins in February. What better way to understand Valentine's Day and the gift of love than through the person of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who gave himself for us that as the Scriptures say, we could be dead to sin and alive – both now and eternally – to all that is good.

I hope Valentine's Day will be special for you in a couple of ways, including being thankful for all in your life who love you, but that in some way Valentine's Day will be a day of preparation and reminding and getting ready for the season of Lent, which this year begins Wednesday, February 18, as we affirm our faith in the crucified Jesus who loved us and gave himself for us and commands that as his disciples, we are to love one another as he has loved us. A blessed Valentine's Day to all of you and the peace and love of Christ be with you anew as Lent begins.

Love in Christ, Pastor Jimmy



This Food Pantry is a BLESSING . . . Thanks to you who donate. Many families are being fed. We have found that there are quite a few new families requesting food because, when they get their check and pay their power bill and buy gas to get back and forth to work, they have no money left for food. Your donations of food are touching the lives of many people.



Meats & Toiletries such as Bath Soap, Shampoo, Toilet Paper, Tooth Paste, Tooth Brushes, etc. are needed every week. The Deacons wish to thank you for your generosity.

- Feb. 1 Meat/Vegetables/Boxed Meals With Meat
Feb. 8 Fruit/Meat/Pancakes/Syrup/Velveeta Cheese
Feb. 15 Boxed Cereal/Oatmeal/Spaghetti/Sauce/Meat
Feb. 22 Meat/Boxed Meals With Meat/Beans/Rice

Circle Meetings

Tuesday, February 10 ~ Ruth Circle will meet at 10:30 AM at Liberty Estates.

Thursday, February 12 ~ Rachel Circle will meet in the Boardroom at 9:30 AM

Thursday, February 26 ~ Lydia Circle will meet on Thursday, February 26, 2015, at 2 PM, at a place to be determined later.

Greeters

- Feb. 1 Jim & Marj Gilliland
Feb. 8 Janice Kain
Feb. 15 Nick & Pat de Place
Feb. 22 Steve Bowler

Cookies

- Feb. 1 Karen Schildt & Mary Thompson
Feb. 9 Mary Hardy & Meghan Verkler
Feb. 16 Nancy Boesdorfer
Feb. 23 Lisa Cline & Harriet Hymer

Coffee Hour

- Feb. 1 Janice Kain & Pat de Place
Feb. 8 Nancy Grimes & Jean Land
Feb. 15 Steve Bowler
Feb. 22 Kolby Riggle & Lisa Taylor



Liturgist

- Feb. 1 Rev. Pat Kuhs
Feb. 8 Eva Cornwell
Feb. 15 Mary Hardy
Feb. 22 Harriet Hymer

Flowers

- Feb. 1 OPEN
Feb. 8 OPEN
Feb. 15 OPEN
Feb. 22 In Honor of Bev Royce's birthday

Flowers to Shut-Ins

- Feb. 2 -6 Steve Bowler
Feb. 9 -13 Steve Bowler
Feb. 16 -20 OPEN
Feb. 23-27 Pat de Place

Meals on Wheels

- Feb. 6 Mary Hardy & Carol McLinden
Feb. 13 Nancy Boesdorfer & Joyce DeBoer
Feb. 20 Claudia & Dale Ferrell
Feb. 27 OPEN

Ushers ~ Team #2

Sally Masters; Jerry Prideaux; Kathy Delzell; Bill Garrison; Linda Anderson; and Jim Anderson.

Chancel Guild

February - Team #3 - Captain, Bobbie McHone, Pat de Place, Claudia Ferrell



For February Ruth Circle will be meeting at Liberty Estates 3220 Independence Dr. with all residents invited to join us. The meeting will be on Tuesday, February 10, at 10:30

AM in the 2nd floor activity room, followed by lunch at 12:00 and a tour of the building. If any non-resident First Presbyterian Church people would like to come also, please let Pat Tarr know (427-5203) so that you will have a lunch reservation.



Ongoing: Kay Barrett (*Ruth Pancoast's sister-cancer*); Wilma Barry; Helen Cade; Roy Christison; Carlene Coddington (*friend of Muriel Mullins*); Doris Collins (*Esther Williams' sister-broken shoulder*); Wayne Dawes (*friend of Lisa & Jay Cline-waiting for heart transplant*); Mary Dison; Dr. Robert Elghammer; Jane King; Robbie Lewis; Roberta McNeill (*Janet Martin's mother-in-law/Bob's mother*); Nancy Orlea; Audrey Oswalt; Harriet Rauchbach; Catherine Ribbe; Jake Ruder (*brain tumor*); Karen Schildt; Don Van Pelt; Jim Van Pelt; Nancy Voss; Gary Waller; Nancy Walser; Margaret Ward; Our Nation's President and all elected leaders.

Recent: Diane Bales; Joyce Black (*friend of George Milner*); Sharon Black; Betty Brown; Boma Brown (*friend of Tina Amadi-stroke*); Jeanne Burke; Debbie Catron (*Mary Hardy's friend-cancer*); Richard Chapman (*friend of Jim Gilliland*); John Crook (*cancer*); Linda Curtis (*acoustic neuroma-benign brain tumor*); Jessica DuPree (*friend of Kathy Delzell-cancer*); Linda Foster (*Connie Lovell's sister-eye surgery*); Scotty Geades; Ray Griffith; Frank Hutnike (*friend of Judy Laker-lymphoma*); Carol Ingram (*cousin of George Milner*); Dora Jameson (*friend of Libby & George Milner*); Mary Jane Johnson (*Ruth Pancoast's sister; heart problem & liver transplant*); Tom Kesler (*Bob Kesler's son-cancer*); Steve Kirby (*cancer surgery*); Inez & Deronda Kimberlin; David & Sue Laker (*David is Stephen Laker's brother; caregiver of Sue-Alzheimer's*); Bill Langford (*friend of Judy Laker-lung cancer*); Phyllis Lawrence (*cancer*); Dorothy Loving; Alex McMahon (*Eva Cornwell's neighbor-cancer*); Jim MeHarry (*friend of Judy Laker-heart infection/surgery*); Marion Maden; Monroe Melzer; Mert Meyer; Jaxson Moles (*Hurler's syndrome; great grandson of Nancy Jennings, grandson of Debbie Pruitt*); Phyllis Morin; Debbie Mullins; Craig Page (*Larken Parr's uncle*); Colten Robertson (*family of Lisa Cline-congenital heart disease*); Jayne Robinson (*Judy Laker's sister*); Taylor Schendel (*multiple sclerosis - friend of Harriet Hymer*); Harlan Smith (*friend of Betty Kannapel-advancing dementia*); Barbara Todd (*friend of Judy Laker*); Nancy & Charles Winchester.

Military Service: Nicholas Harvey (*Marine Parents: Allan & Lisa Harvey*); SFC Thomas Kuchefski (*Pat Phillips' nephew*); TSgt. Adam Beal (*Lois Stevenson's grandson*); Billy Jackman (*Sharon Huffman's grandson-in-law-Saudia Arabia*); John Tanner; Samantha Grimes (*US Marines*); and all men and women that serve and others on prayer board across from office.

FPC Inquirers for the Ministry: Rachel Riggle (*Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*); James Potts (*McCormick Theological Seminary*)

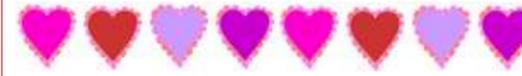
Seminary Students: Mina Choi (*Princeton Theological Seminary*); Cody Watson (*Johnson University*).

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Will be Sunday, February 8 in the sanctuary during the 9:15AM service of worship. We will celebrate ministries accomplished during the past year; receive and consider any changes in the pastor's terms of call; hear presentations also as information to the congregation of the Session-approved budget for 2015 and celebration reports from various ministry teams; and other business as determined by the Session. The written annual report - always a great summary of the church's life and ministry during the past year - has been made available beginning Sunday, January 25 or you can pick up a copy in the church office.

Men's Group Meeting

All men of the church are invited (and feel free to bring a guest!) to gather at 7:30 AM at Charlotte's for coffee, conversation on the topics or news events of the day, prayer, etc. Ideas for other men's church activities can also be discussed. The meeting for this month is Saturday, February 7.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Pat de Place	Feb. 1
Kristen Wolfenbarger	Feb. 2
Lynne Ellis	Feb. 2
Elizabeth Harvey	Feb. 2
Helen Cade	Feb. 3
Clyde Meachum	Feb. 3
Dorothy Stine	Feb. 4
John Sant	Feb. 8
Laura Bowler	Feb. 8
John Mosser	Feb. 12
Ethan Albert	Feb. 13
Garrett Albert	Feb. 13
Scott Hardy	Feb. 14
Helen Melzer	Feb. 15
Meg Welchans	Feb. 16
Audrey Oswalt	Feb. 17
Logan Peaslee	Feb. 17
Ashley Peaslee	Feb. 19
Jack Thomas	Feb. 19
Sarah McHone-Chase	Feb. 20
Heather Keefer	Feb. 24
Emily Adams	Feb. 26
John Jenkins, Jr.	Feb. 27
Inez Kimberlin	Feb. 27
Rosemary Curtis	Feb. 28
Beverly Royce	Feb. 28

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

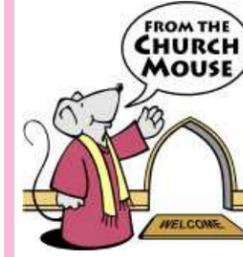
Mr. & Mrs. Augie Hoeflinger	Feb. 18
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WINTER Office Hours ~ 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Our Fall Sunday Schedule Is:

Worship: (Sunday)	9:15 AM
Spirit & Truth Worship: (Saturday)	5:00 PM
Sunday School:	9:30 AM
Coffee Hour:	10:30 AM
Contemporary Christian Studies: (CCS)	11:00 AM



The Mouse House!

Is in need of more Jigsaw Puzzles.

FPC To Host The Kings Choraliers

In coming weeks you will be seeing and hearing publicity within our church and in the community about a concert FPC is hosting in our sanctuary the evening of Friday, February 27 featuring *The King's Choraliers* of Grand Rapids, Michigan, a traveling male chorus group comprised of singers of diverse occupations and backgrounds, its origins dating back to 1950. The members of the chorus and its foundation benefactors are united by a common desire to share their love for Jesus Christ through song. They have presented their message in churches, schools, and prisons throughout North America. Their song selections include spirituals, anthems, and hymns ranging from classical to traditional to contemporary.

There is no cost to individuals or to the church for this concert, but we are asked to provide a meal/supper late in the afternoon prior to the concert. If there is one among us who would like to "quarterback" the planning and preparation for the meal, please contact the church office.



Souper Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 1 - the offering for the Deacons, as usual, will go for the yearly ministries the Deacons oversee - specifically for the food pantry on February 2 - this total received on February 1 will be added to the national total on the Souper Bowl Sunday web site - we will publish the national results in the March or April newsletter. Souper Bowl Sunday was started by a Presbyterian youth minister in South Carolina in the late 1980s/early 1990s.



Ash Wednesday Worship

Lent begins this year with Ash Wednesday February 18. Two worship opportunities will be offered – 12:00 and 5:30 PM – in the chapel. The evening service will be preceded by a light supper and the

choir will be providing special music as well. Both services will include the candle light cross and opportunity for worshipers to have ashes placed on their foreheads in the sign of the cross. The ashes remind us what the end result of our existence would be without God intervening in Christ to save us. The sign of the cross reminds us of God’s gift of salvation to us in Jesus Christ. Several church members have commented that they find this brief time of worship on Ash Wednesday to be one of the most meaningful worship services during the entire church year.

Lenten Wreath Devotional Readers Needed

Beginning Saturday, February 21 and Sunday, February 22, we will be continuing something very special that we added to the worship services for Lent. Like the Advent candles and devotions that are done by families and clusters of good friends each Sunday of Advent, we will be using a crown of thorns-like wreath and 5 purple, one red, and one white candle for Lent at both the Sunday 9:15 AM and Saturday 5:00 PM service. Instead of lighting them each week, we will extinguish one each week. Please see Pastor Jimmy or call the office to sign up and be given the readings.



Some Brief Facts About Lent

Please find below both some interesting information about Lent. The information was obtained from a church newsletter of a congregation Katie, and I used to pastor over twenty years ago in Denison, Texas.

Did you know...

...that Lent originally lasted forty hours? It was spent in fasting to commemorate the suffering of Christ and the time He spent in the tomb.

...that, in the early church, Lent was a time to prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism, scheduled for Easter Eve?

...that by the third century, the Lenten observance was extended to six days and eventually expanded to forty days (excluding Sundays) in 800 A.D., during the reign of Charlemagne?

...that the earliest Lent can begin is February 5? That last occurred in 1818.

...that the latest Lent can begin is March 10? That won't happen again until 2038.

...that the day before Ash Wednesday (Shrove Tuesday) is celebrated in many parts of the world with feasting? The French call it Mardi Gras; the Germans refer to it as Fasching. The feasting comes from the custom of using up household fats prior to the 40 days of Lenten fasting when no fat is used.

...that the symbol of the cross, imposed on worshipers' foreheads on Ash Wednesday, is an outward expression of Christians' internal desire to dwell in the shadow of the cross where mercy abounds and death is vanquished?

...that traditionally, Lent is a season of reflection, focused on the deep and abiding significance of Christ's sacrificial love? The prophet Isaiah reminds us that our sins are forgiven as a result of the selfless dedication which led the Suffering Servant to His death. Jesus willingly endured the agony of the crucifixion to atone for our unrighteousness. It is fitting therefore to enter Lent with an awareness of our sinfulness and a new sense of appreciation for the sacrifice required to secure our redemption.



FROM THE DESK OF THE DEACONS



FEBRUARY 2015
By Janet Martin

The Deacons met Tuesday, January 6, for the first gathering of the new year. Even though this Deacon had good intentions of being there for the meeting, she was not! I do not want to miss the opportunity to wish you all *Happy New Year* and extend to you my sincere hope for health, prosperity and joy for the year 2015 and beyond! Words don't seem to give justice to how much we appreciate the following Deacons: Pat and Nick de Place and Steve Bowler. They along with Sheila combined their energy and efforts to distribute/offer the remaining 32 Christmas baskets. There were 26 baskets that were not picked up (ones that the Salvation Army gave us) as well as 6 (out of the 25) named by the office remaining. The decision was made to distribute these 32 baskets to others previously not named as recipients. Remaining baskets were given to families recommended to us by calling C.A.P., Big Brothers Big Sisters, Project Success, Love INC, as well as to others who called the church asking if we had remaining baskets. I personally wish to thank these dedicated church members for their humanity and willingness to serve others. We owe them our appreciation and I hope you will convey that the next time you see one of them! I wish you a very **HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY** with my heartfelt hope of renewed love for mankind. God bless you until we meet again. *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*



New Annual Wedding Anniversary Recognition Approved

Beginning Sunday, February 15, and hopefully continuing annually on the Sunday closest to Valentine's Day each year, there will be a recognition of all wedding anniversaries during the calendar year in our church family.

Names will be listed in the bulletin on this special day with anniversary date, there will also be a list recognizing those who have been widowed and listing the number of years they would have been married if they had not lost their spouse. George Milner is assembling the list of names for each anniversary category and after the 9:15 AM worship service on February 15, a "wedding style" cake will be served during the refreshment/fellowship time. Please contact the church office or George to make sure your name and anniversary date - be it one or eighty years or somewhere in between - are on the list!

General Fund Income & Expense MTD – December 2014

Beginning Balance:	\$13258.48	\$13258.48
*Current Income:	\$23834.31	
**Fund Transfer: Endowment	\$10000.00	
Memorial	\$100.00	

Total Income & Transfers: **\$33934.31**

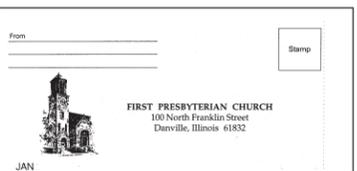
Total General fund checking **\$47192.79**

Total General fund Expenses(\$31802.14) **(\$31802.14)**

Balance Forward: \$15390.65 **\$15390.65**

*Current Income refers to money received during the month from pledges, loose offering, rents, income from outside trusts and misc. donations.

**Fund Transfers refers to budgeted money from the Endowment from earnings and allowable principle. This money is transferred only as needed, approximately quarterly during the year.



OFFERING ENVELOPES

All those who already have an envelope number will receive **Weekly Offering Envelopes** for the year **2015**.

If you do not receive Offering Envelopes, but still want them, please check at the back of the Sanctuary, or contact Tina in the Office.

Youth Group and Adult Weekly Bible Study Meetings Continue During February

Youth and adults continue their Sunday evening gatherings - unless otherwise noted or announced during Sunday worship - at 5:30 PM. Please note the time and schedules for February elsewhere in the newsletter calendar and in the listing of youth events. A pizza supper and refreshments are enjoyed then the youth will be meeting the first part of this month to practice for their upcoming Dinner Theatre and the adults will meet for Bible study with Pastor Jimmy.

For adults unable to attend on Sunday evenings, the Bible study portion from Sunday nights is repeated by Pastor Jimmy on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM. The adult study continues its journey with the book, *Jesus Is the Question*.

Presbyterian Youth Fellowship Event Calendar for February

Sunday, February 1 – Annual Congregational Meeting – one service only

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM – Dinner Theatre Play Practice

Sunday, February 8 – 9:15 AM – Annual Meeting of the Congregation during Worship; 5:30 PM – Dinner and Dinner Theatre Play Practice

Sunday, February 15 – 5:30 PM – Dinner and Dinner Theatre Play Practice

Wednesday, February 18 – 5:30 PM – Ash Wednesday Service (Chapel)

Saturday, February 21 – 9:00 AM – Dinner Theatre set up and dress rehearsal

Sunday, February 22 – 5:00 PM – *Youth Dinner Theatre* – Tickets \$20.00/person



Winter Blood Drive

A Winter Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, February 15, which will again be in the church gym, beginning at 9:00 AM in the morning and going until approximately 1:00 PM. We have a goal for this drive to collect at least 13 units. For more information, you may speak with Jim Gilliland.

Session Highlights for December 2014

December 2014 Session meeting opened with Prayer, lighting the Christ candle and hymn,

Quorum declared: motion to excuse absent members carried

Clerk's report approved for November 2014

Clerk's minutes approved for November 2014

Correspondence: Thank you from **James Potts** - 2nd semester tuition for Seminary. **Parity** (formerly Presbyterian Welcome) Session thanked for contribution of \$400 that helped pay for James Potts attendance at Future Pastors Retreat. **Sharon Black** – Thank you for visits and flowers.

McCormick Seminary – Thank you for James Potts, financial support, via the **Bremer Ministry Education Scholarship Trust**. **Commissioner to Presbytery:** Libby Milner – held November 20, 2014 at Effingham. In six weeks, 2,510 shallow wells were dug in Malawi, each well cost \$400. There is a Synod grant available that could be used for a pastor's sabbatical. 2015, 2016 and 2017 Presbytery themes were announced. Board of Pensions reported the 2015 medical dues are 24.5%. Installation of 2015 Moderator, Teaching Elder Dennis Hamilton of Tilden held and Vice Moderator is Ruling Elder Jan Mandernach of Decatur. **Treasurer Report:** Report approved. The 2015 budget will be presented during Finance Team report for a vote. **Pastor's Report:** Church related team meetings and staff meetings. Pastor Jimmy has joined the choir and bell choir. Went caroling with the youth, gave home communions, and attended various other church and community related activities. Report approved for December. **Devotion:** **Marj Welchans** – “God Dances Among the Common & What Love Does” by Max Lucado **Witness:** Due to shortage of members on both the Witness team and Christian Education/Fellowship teams, motion was approved to merge the two teams and the new team name is **Christian Education and Outreach**. **Worship:** **Rev. Ann Schwartz** will preach January 25, 2015. Annual meeting will be held February 8, 2015. Spirit & Truth will not meet February 7, 2015 **The King's Choraliers**, a men's chorus from Grand Rapids Michigan will give a concert in the church sanctuary on Friday, February 27. The community will be invited to the concert.

Correspondence: None

Commissioner to Presbytery: **Libby Milner** was elected Commissioner to Presbytery.

Treasurer Report: Report approved.

Treasurer Election: **Harriet Hymer** was elected treasurer for 1 year.

Pastor's Report: Church related team meetings and staff meetings. Pastor Jimmy helped with the Deacon's Christmas baskets, staff Christmas, worked on the Annual report proof-reading submissions, MLK Community worship and other related MLK planning activities. 2 confidential office visits, 7 home visits, 3 funerals, 2 prospective member visits, 4 hospital visits and weekly Bible studies and preaching preparations rounded out a full month. **Devotion:** Harriet Hymer – 1 Peter 5:1-14 selected portions. “*Saint Peter's instructions to the elders of the church.*” **Worship:** **Rev. Ann Schwartz** will preach January 25, 2015. **Annual meeting will be held February 8, 2015.** **Spirit & Truth** will not meet February 7, 2015 **The King's Choraliers**, a men's chorus from Grand Rapids Michigan will give a concert in the church sanctuary on Friday, February 27. The

community will be invited to the concert. Estimate for repair of the organ has been delivered to **Gatherer's Group**. **Classifieds: Help wanted** – there is a great need for members to help with ushering, Acolytes, banners, Chancel Guild and Sound Booth. Please contact the office to offer your support and service to the Lord. **Communications:** Calendar Planning Meeting held 12, 2015. The church website is being upgraded. **Christian Ed/Outreach:** Adult CCS Sunday School curriculum approved. 5 Year Outreach Planning suggestion booklet passed to all the elders. **Dinner Theater** presented by the youth “The Big Bad” is soon to be presented. New Edition communicates most of their activities via Facebook. Suitcase drive for Catholic Social Service has begun. Sam & Nancy Grimes have started an exercise program using the gym. Regarding the 5 year outreach plan – use the Retreat Site more often. Membership update - in progress. “**Get 'er done! Finally**” is a new group similar to the **Purple Donut Gang**. These ladies and men will help you get small tasks done or started that you have had on a list and have been putting off. If you need encouragement, moral support or a nudge to get something done — don't be afraid to ask. **Facilities:** *The boilers do not need to be replaced.* There needs some repairs and maintenance, and regular service done. GHT Mechanical will give a bid for the recommended repairs. Ongoing needs: windows in the gym, wall between the gym and store-room has a leak, new sign and painting of the outside doors. The **Girl Scouts** will use the gym for a Father Daughter dance on Feb 28th. **Personnel:** Report. No action items. **Rita Torrey** agreed to be the liaison with the worship team in their search for a replacement organist. **Finance:** Report. No action items. **Endowment/Investment Team** will meet with Joy Gruber of First Midwest Bank to review the 2014 portfolio performance. **Prayers:** Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM Respectfully, Harriet Hymer, Vice Clerk of Session

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Correspondence: None

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Treasurer Election: **Harriet Hymer** was elected treasurer for 1 year.

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Youth Group and Adult Weekly Bible Study Meetings Continue During February

Youth and adults continue their Sunday evening gatherings - unless otherwise noted or announced during Sunday worship - at 5:30 PM. Please note the time and schedules for February elsewhere in the newsletter calendar and in the listing of youth events. A pizza supper and refreshments are enjoyed then the youth will be meeting the first part of this month to practice for their upcoming Dinner Theatre and the adults will meet for Bible study with Pastor Jimmy.

For adults unable to attend on Sunday evenings, the Bible study portion from Sunday nights is repeated by Pastor Jimmy on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM. The adult study continues its journey with the book, *Jesus Is the Question*.

Presbyterian Youth Fellowship Event Calendar for February

Sunday, February 1 – Annual Congregational Meeting – one service only

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM – Dinner Theatre Play Practice

Sunday, February 8 – 9:15 AM – Annual Meeting of the Congregation during Worship; 5:30 PM – Dinner and Dinner Theatre Play Practice

Sunday, February 15 – 5:30 PM – Dinner and Dinner Theatre Play Practice

Wednesday, February 18 – 5:30 PM – Ash Wednesday Service (Chapel)

Saturday, February 21 – 9:00 AM – Dinner Theatre set up and dress rehearsal

Sunday, February 22 – 5:00 PM – *Youth Dinner Theatre* – Tickets \$20.00/person



Winter Blood Drive

A Winter Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, February 15, which will again be in the church gym, beginning at 9:00 AM in the morning and going until approximately 1:00 PM. We have a goal for this drive to collect at least 13 units. For more information, you may speak with Jim Gilliland.

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Quorum declared: motion to excuse absent members carried

Clerk's report approved for November 2014

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Correspondence: Thank you from **James Potts** - 2nd semester tuition for Seminary. **Parity** (formerly Presbyterian Welcome) Session thanked for contribution of \$400 that helped pay for James Potts attendance at Future Pastors Retreat. **Sharon Black** – Thank you for visits and flowers.

McCormick Seminary – Thank you for James Potts, financial support, via the **Bremer Ministry Education Scholarship Trust**. **Commissioner to Presbytery:** Libby Milner – held November 20, 2014 at Effingham. In six weeks, 2,510 shallow wells were dug in Malawi, each well cost \$400. There is a Synod grant available that could be used for a pastor's sabbatical. 2015, 2016 and 2017 Presbytery themes were announced. Board of Pensions reported the 2015 medical dues are 24.5%. Installation of 2015 Moderator, Teaching Elder Dennis Hamilton of Tilden held and Vice Moderator is Ruling Elder Jan Mandernach of Decatur. **Treasurer Report:** Report approved. The 2015 budget will be presented during Finance Team report for a vote. **Pastor's Report:** Church related team meetings and staff meetings. Pastor Jimmy has joined the choir and bell choir. Went caroling with the youth, gave home communions, and attended various other church and community related activities. Report approved for December. **Devotion:** **Marj Welchans** – "God Dances Among the Common & What Love Does" by Max Lucado **Witness:** Due to shortage of members on both the Witness team and Christian Education/Fellowship teams, motion was approved to merge the two teams and the new team name is **Christian Education and Outreach**. **Worship:** **Rev. Ann Schwarts** will preach January 25, 2015. Annual meeting will be held February 8, 2015. Spirit & Truth will not meet February 7, 2015 **The King's Choraliers**, a men's chorus from Grand Rapids Michigan will give a concert in the church sanctuary on Friday, February 27. The community will be invited to the concert.

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