First Presbyterian Church
100 N. Franklin - Danville, IL 61832 - 217-442-0541
www.fpcdanville.org

The Chimes

May 2018

Number 5 Volume 64

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FPC Meetings

May 1 ..... 6:00 PM Deacons' Meeting
May 3 ..... 5:30 PM Equipping Team Meetings
May 10 ..... 3:30 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting
May 14 ..... 5:30 PM Connecting Team Meetings
May 18 ..... CHIMES DEADLINE
May 21 ..... 5:30 PM Building Team Meetings
May 22 ..... 6:30 PM Session
May 23 ..... 9:30 AM Staff Meeting
May 28 ..... Office Closed—Memorial Day
May 29 ..... 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Summer Office Hours begin

MAY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 **9:00 AM** Choir Practice **9:45 AM** Worship **10:00 AM** Sunday School **10:45 AM** Coffee Hour **11:00 AM** CCS Class **11:30 AM** Casual Contemporary Worship **3:30 PM** Youth meet at church **5:00 PM - 7:30 PM** Variety Show	30 **5:00 PM - 7:00 PM** Faith & Finance Class/Love INC	1 **12:30 PM** Knit Wits **1:00 PM** PDG **6:00 PM** Deacons' Meeting	2 **2:30 PM** Book Study **5:30 PM** Youth Bible Study **7:00 PM - 9:00 PM** DSO/Lounge **7:00 PM** Spirit/Truth Practice **7:30 PM** AA/Al-Anon **7:30 PM** Choir	3 **12:00 PM** National Day of Prayer/Rain Location **5:30 PM** Equipping Team Worship/Faith Development	4 **6:00 PM** College Age Bible Study **7:30 PM** AA Meeting	5 **7:00 AM - 1:30 PM** PEO Rummage/Gym **7:30 AM** Men's Group/Charlotte's
6 **COMMUNION SUNDAY** **9:00 AM** Choir Practice **9:45 AM** Worship/Deacons' Offering **10:00 AM** Sunday School **10:45 AM** Coffee Hour **11:00 AM** CCS Class **11:30 AM** Casual Contemporary Worship **2:00 PM - 5:00 PM** Volleyball	7 **9:00 AM** Monday Morning Mamas **7:00 PM** Faith & Finance Class/Love INC	8 **10:00 AM** Ruth Circle **1:00 PM** PDG	9 **2:30 PM** Book Study **5:30 PM** Youth Bible Study **7:00 PM** Spirit/Truth Practice **7:30 PM** AA/Al-Anon **7:30 PM** Choir	10 **9:30 AM** Rachel Circle **3:30 PM** Stephen Ministry Meeting	11 **9:00 AM** Master Gardener set up **6:00 PM** College Age Bible Study **7:30 PM** AA Meeting	12 **7:00 AM - 2:00 PM** Master Gardener Plant Sale
13 **9:00 AM** Choir Practice **9:45 AM** Worship **10:00 AM** Sunday School **10:45 AM** Coffee Hour **11:00 AM** CCS Class **11:30 AM** Casual Contemporary Worship **2:00 PM - 5:00 PM** Volleyball	14 **5:30 PM** Connecting Team Congregational Care/Mission Teams	15 **12:30 PM** Knit Wits **1:00 PM** PDG	16 **2:30 PM** Book Study **5:30 PM** Youth Bible Study **7:00 PM** Spirit/Truth Practice **7:30 PM** AA/Al-Anon **7:30 PM** Choir	17 **Presbytery Mtg/Decatur**	18 **CHIMES DEADLINE** **Primetimers** **10:00 AM - 4:00 PM** Old Town Preservation Rummage Sale set up **6:00 PM** College Age Bible Study **7:30 PM** AA Meeting	19 **8:00 AM - 3:00 PM** Old Town Preservation Rummage Sale
20 **GRADUATION RECEPTION** **PENTECOST** **9:00 AM** Choir Practice **9:45 AM** Worship **10:00 AM** Sunday School **10:45 AM** Graduation Reception **11:00 AM** CCS Class **11:30 AM** Casual Contemporary Worship **2:00 PM - 5:00 PM** Volleyball	21 **5:30 PM** Building Team/Finance/Personnel/Facilities	22 **12:30 PM** Knit Wits **1:00 PM** PDG **6:30 PM** Session	23 **9:30 AM** Staff Meeting **2:30 PM** Book Study **5:30 PM** Youth Bible Study **7:00 PM** Spirit/Truth Practice **7:30 PM** AA/Al-Anon **7:30 PM** Choir	24 **2:00 PM** Lydia Circle	25 **6:00 PM** College Age Bible Study **7:30 PM** AA Meeting	26 Whitehair/Retreat
27 Whitehair/Retreat **9:00 AM** Choir Practice **9:45 AM** Worship **10:00 AM** Sunday School **10:45 AM** Coffee Hour **11:00 AM** CCS Class **11:30 AM** Casual Contemporary Worship **2:00 PM - 5:00 PM** Volleyball	28 Memorial Day OBSERVANCE OFFICE CLOSED	29 **8:30 AM - 4:30 PM** Summer office hours begin **12:30 PM** Knit Wits **1:00 PM** PDG	30 **8:30 AM - 4:30 PM** Summer office hours begin	31 **8:30 AM - 4:30 PM** Summer office hours begin	1 **8:30 AM - 4:30 PM** Summer office hours begin **6:00 PM** College Age Bible Study **7:30 PM** AA Meeting	2 **7:30 AM** Men's Group/Charlotte's **2:00 PM - 4:00 PM** Milner/Anniversary party
30 **8:30 AM - 4:30 PM** Summer office hours begin **2:30 PM** Book Study **5:30 PM** Youth Bowling **7:00 PM** Spirit/Truth Practice **7:30 PM** AA/Al-Anon						

Pastor's Perspective

Dear Friends,

For those of us charged with leading congregations, both pastors and Sessions, the safety of the people who worship and work in the church is an important and ongoing concern. As tempting as it is to think that because this is God's house, we are immune to bad things happening here, most of us realize we cannot afford to be so naive. We are reminded of our vulnerability with every tornado season, with every incident of abuse we hear about on the news, and with every act of violence that occurs in a church, school, and other public place.

Our denomination, through the work of the General Assembly, has required every council (Session, Presbytery, and Synod) to implement a Safe Child Policy for the protection of children, youth, and vulnerable adults among us. Part of that process is that staff and volunteers who work with children and youth are required to be trained in identifying potential abuse and preventing it, and that applies to the faithful folks who have been teaching Sunday school for decades, as well as the newest volunteers.

We also are required to have policies that address sexual harassment, a not uncommon issue in the church, sadly. At the urging of our insurance company, we mandate that all potential employees undergo background checks, so that is one of the steps we take before hiring anyone now. As recent Session decisions demonstrate, leadership here is being responsive to these requirements.

Several of us have attended safety planning/training sessions for churches that the Danville Police have provided. There is no one right answer for every church. Some are opting for armed guards; most are not. But all of us are faced with decisions that once seemed unthinkable.

For several months, a Safety Team has been meeting at this church to assess risks, consider the challenges of securing this particular church building, and propose solutions. You have likely noticed their presence in the parking lot and at the entrances on Sunday mornings, and we are grateful for their willingness to help you maneuver with umbrellas and slippery spots on the pavement—and to be attentive to potential problems outside.

The ministry teams and Session are regularly engaged in safety-related conversations: Should doors remain locked on Sunday mornings? How do we balance our obligation to be hospitable and loving to our neighbors with our concern about potential threats? Where is the safest place for the nursery and Sunday school to be located? How do we best communicate within the building in the event of any kind of emergency? Where can we go quickly and safely during a weather emergency?

We are living in an anxious time, and we often don't make good and faithful decisions when we are afraid. So please know that the Session is deliberating carefully, weighing feedback from the Safety Team and from you. Thanks to those of you who have shared your concerns; we hope you will continue to do so.

And pray for your Session as they wrestle with difficult decisions.

In Christ,

Pastor Ann

Survey Reminder

The last day to take the Holy Cow! survey that the Session and Pastor Ann have asked you to complete is **May 1**. If you prefer to fill out a paper copy, please turn it in to the church office several days prior to the May 1 deadline, so that select Session members have time to enter your information into the computer.

Once all the surveys have been submitted and tabulated, the Session will receive a substantial report about the levels of energy/vitality and satisfaction in the congregation. When the Session has discussed with a trained interpreter what the results mean, we will share that information with you and offer a plan for moving forward.

If you have any questions about the survey or would like assistance in completing it—either online or on paper, please contact *Rita Torrey, Pat Tarr, Carol McLinden, Lisa Taylor,* or *Rick Welchans*. Thank you!

FOOD PANTRY

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, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, etc. are needed every week. The Deacons wish to thank you for your generosity.

May 6……..Meat/Vegetables/Boxed Meals with Meat
May 13…….Fruit/Meat/Pancake Mix/Syrup/Velveeta
May 20…..Boxed Cereal/Oatmeal/Spaghetti/Sauce/Meat
May 27……..Meat/Boxed Meals with Meat/Beans/Rice

Circle Meetings

Tuesday, May 8 ~**Ruth Circle** will meet on Tuesday, May 8, at 10:00 AM in the church boardroom. We will have study, devotions, and the business meeting and will then go to lunch together. All women of the church are invited to join us.

Thursday, May 10 ~ **Rachel Circle** will meet in the Boardroom at 9:30 AM.

Thursday, May 24 ~**Lydia Circle** will meet at 2:00 PM at the home of Mary Thompson, 123 Edwards. Libby Milner will give the devotions. Virginia Stewart will lead the study, Lesson 5, in the study guide, *Who Is Jesus*.

Greeters

May 6.....**Bob & Janet Martin**
May 13..... **Nick & Pat de Place**
May 20.....**Mary Thompson & Ellen Gramm**
May 27.....**Judy Laker & Linda Green**

Liturgist

May 6…..**OPEN**
May 13.....**OPEN**
May 20.....**OPEN**
May 27.....**OPEN**

Cookies

May 6…..**Nancy Boesdorfer & Lisa Taylor**
May 13.....**Myanne Compton**
May 20.....**GRADUATION RECEPTION**
May 27... **Linda Anderson & Marj/Jim Gilliland**

Meals on Wheels

May 4.....**Mary Hardy & Carol McLinden**
May 11.....**Nancy Boesdorfer & Joyce DeBoer**
May 18..... **Jim & Linda Anderson**
May 25.....**Mary Thompson & Rita Torrey**

Coffee Hour

May 6..... **Nancy Boesdorfer**
May 13..... **OPEN**
May 20.....**GRADUATION RECEPTION**
May 27..... **Jim & Linda Anderson**

Flowers

May 6.....**In Honor of Bob & Janet Martin's Ann.**
May 13..... **In Honor of Kolby Riggle's birthday**
May 20.....**In Honor of Janice Kain's birthday**
May 27.....**In Honor of Ann Milner Ostrum's birthday**

Flowers to Shut-Ins

Apr. 30-May 4..... **Myanne Compton**
May 7-11..... **Nancy Boesdorfer**
May 14-18.....**Kolby Riggle**
May 21-25.....**Kolby Riggle**
May 28-June 1 ..... **Jim & Linda Anderson**

Ushers ~ Team #2

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

Chancel Guild

May.....Bobbie McHone, **Captain**;
..... Pat de Place; Claudia Ferrell

Office Hours ~ 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

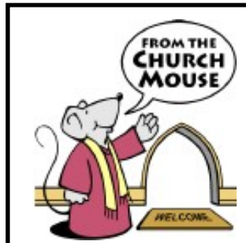
This Week's Prayer Needs: **Jeanne Jones** *(M. Jones' mom)*; **Lynn McLinden; Dorothy Loving; Ramone Barnes** *(M. Hardy's friend)*; **Tracie Ross** *(friend of C. Lovell)*; **Jim Lyons** *(cancer)*; **Nancy & Larry Norenberg** *(Connie Lovell's cousins)*; **Alice Faulkner; Dotty deTorres; Katie Siler** *(Pastor Ann's niece)*; **Wilmetta Feezor** *(N. Grimes' mom)*; **Sally Thompson** *(J. Compton)*; **Libby Milner; Greg Lewis** *(T. Peck)*; **Bob Smith** *(Ferrells' son-in-law)*; **Athena Brooks** *(P. Evans)*; **Iris de Torres; Jim** *(T. Peck)*; **Marj Gilliland; Judy Scott** *(J. Laker)*; **Janet Gale** *(J. Gilliland)*; **Pat Stevens** *(Cornwells)*; **Virginia Stewart; Muriel Mullins.** Those who mourn: **The families and friends of Edith Purvis** *(J. Burke's mom)*; **Dianne Edington** *(S. Faulkner's sister-in-law)*; **Robert Corbett** *(A. Faulkner's brother)*; **Jim Jordan; Mary Belle Luton; Emily Anderson.**

Ongoing: **Baby AJ**; **Teresa Andrews** *(neuromuscular disease)*; **Diane Bales; Kay Barrett** *(Ruth Pancoast's sister–cancer)*; **Rev. Andrew Black** *(H. Bury)*; **John Burton** *(Cornwells' friend)*; **Iris McHone-Chase** *(Bobbie McHone's granddaughter)*; **Pastor Trent Cloin** *(Lisa Cline's friend—bladder cancer)*; **Carlene Coddington** *(Mullins' friend)*; **Gary Crisp** *(Cornwells' friend)*; **Ann Corbett** *(Bobbie McHone's aunt)*; **Butch Creamer; Wayne Dawes** *(Lisa & Jay Cline's friend–waiting for heart transplant)*; **Mary Dison; Steve Faulkner; Dale Ferrell; Ray Griffith; Deborah Huckelby; Carol Ingram** *(George Milner's cousin)*; **Mary Jane Johnson** *(Ruth Pancoast's sister; heart problem & liver transplant)*; **Bob Kesler; Deronda Kimberlin; Pat Kuhs; David & Sue Laker** *(Stephen Laker's brother and sister-in-law)*; **Judy Laker; Jean Land; Brian Lemenager; Robbie Lewis; John C. Mason, Jr.; Bob Miller** *(Carol McLinden's friend–cancer)*; **Debbie Mullins; Natalie Mullins; Barb Nelson** *(S. Townsley's friend)*; **Kathy Parks; Betsy Perkins** *(J. Martin's friend—breast cancer)*; **Bob Pyles** *(Ruth Pancoast's brother-in-law)*; **Rick Reebee** *(S. Townsley's friend)*; **John Rinkenberger** *(Ellen Gramm's nephew)*; **Beth Robinson** *(Judy Laker's aunt)*; **Jayne Robinson** *(Judy Laker's sister)*; **Amie Rodgers** *(Skilea Hall's sister)*; **Jake Ruder** *(brain tumor)*; **Katie Slezak** *(Curtis family—breast cancer)*; **Marshall Smith; Lois Stevenson; John Stewart** *(Virginia Stewart's son)*; **David Tanner; Jack & Wilma Thomas; Tom Wagner; Gary Waller; Nancy Walser; Nancy & Charles Winchester; Marjorie Young; Military Personnel.**

FPC Candidate for the Ministry: **James Potts, M.Div.**

Theological Students: **Mary Hoss** *(Johnson University)*; **Joseph Compton** *(Moody Bible Institute)*.

Expectant Parents: **Bobby & Sara Cornwell** *(due in July)*; **Anne and Jason Binette** *(due in July)*; **Seth & Julie McHone** *(due in August)*.



The Mouse House!

We have some paperback books for sale - 50 cents - Hardbacks - 1 dollar -

Come in and see all of the goodies we have.

Pentecost Worship

On Pentecost, we remember that the Spirit of God was poured out on all believers as they worshipped together fifty days after Jesus' resurrection. Just as Jesus had promised his disciples, the Holy Spirit came upon his followers, filling them with new life and hope through a transformative love for God.

On **May 20**, we will celebrate that event and the birth of Christ's church so long ago. The Holy Spirit remains with us still, connecting us with a host of witnesses and continuing to inspire each of us and all of us as we look to God's future for all creation.

Wear red to worship on Pentecost as a symbol of the tongues of fire that represent the Holy Spirit.

In response to the transformative love that burns in you for God, may you give generously as we receive the Pentecost Offering. One of the four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA), it unites us in a churchwide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

Sixty percent of your gifts will support the work of the larger church with children and youth—the Young Adult Volunteer Program, ministries with youth (including the Youth Triennium), and programs for children at risk.

The Session has decided once again to give our local portion (40%) to Feed the Children Backpack Program, which provides backpacks filled with food every Friday during the school year to Danville students so that they have food over the weekends.

Summer Office Hours

begin after

Memorial Day

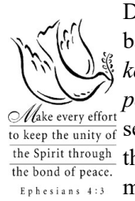
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Monday through Friday

Casual & Contemporary "Unplugged"

If you haven't been to the 11:30 AM service in a while, join us! We've changed the format a bit—the lights are on, the instruments are unplugged, the music is softer, and the service is interactive. We use the same scriptures as the 9:45 AM service and then talk about them together. All are welcome!

National Day of Prayer



Join with people from across the nation on the National Day of Prayer. The theme is Unity and is based on Ephesians 4:3: *"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* On Thursday, **May 3**, our local observance will be held at Temple Plaza during the noon hour. If it's raining, the event will be moved to our sanctuary.

Graduate Recognition

We will recognize this year's graduates on **May 20** during the worship service and with a reception. The following students will graduate from high school: *Jessica Bowler, Kyla Bowler, Skilea Hall, Caitlin Whitehair*, and *Christina Jackson*.

Our 2018 college graduates include *Kristen Verkler*, who has earned a Bachelor of Science in Education from Illinois State University. Her commencement ceremony will be on May 12. Kristin is currently interviewing for Special Education teacher positions in the Chicago area.

Lee Miller will graduate from Eastern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Arts in History. He will be doing an internship at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site beginning in May.

Please notify Kelly Whitehair if you have other high school or college students graduating this spring.

FPC Children/Youth Calendar

May 2 .....Bible Study, 5:30-7:30 PM
May 9 .....Bible Study, 5:30-7:30 PM
May 16 .....Bible Study, 5:30-7:30 PM
May 23 ..... Place flags for Memorial Day, 5:30-7:30 PM
May 30 .....Meet at bowling alley, 5:30-7:30 PM

Sunday School Summer Break

May 27 is the last day of Sunday school for our kiddos and our amazing teachers. I want to give a heartfelt thank you to our angels on earth: *Karen Schildt, Pat Tarr, Lee Miller*, and *Carol McLinden*. Have a great summer. God bless!—Kelly

To My Sunday School Teacher
You offered me an
example of the
kind of Faith to live.
A life of holy
Devotion
To a God who freely gives!

VBS Is Just Around the Corner

God's Galaxy is the theme of our 2018 Vacation Bible School, which is scheduled for Monday through Thursday, **June 25-28**, from 3:00—5:00 PM. We will tell the story of how God created everything—through games, songs, crafts, and Bible time.

As always, we will need volunteers: storytellers, kitchen snack preparers, game leaders, and arts and craft teachers. Please contact Kelly Whitehair to let her know how you can help.

We Are Grateful

A big thank you to *Joyce DeBoer* for donating a two-sided chalkboard for the nursery. The kids love it!

Summer at Camp Carew in 2018

Camp Carew is a mission of the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois. Located nine miles south of Carbondale, the camp occupies 60 beautiful acres along Little Grassy Lake inside the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge.

Each summer, the staff seeks to help children and youth deepen their awareness of God, each other, and the natural world through a variety of camp experiences, including horseback riding, high adventure, and mission work.

Registration for the 2018 season is now open. You can find out more at http://campcarew.org/.

Staff E-Mail Addresses

Rev. Ann Schwartz	revann@fpcdanville.org
Sheila	sheilasmiley@fpcdanville.org
Paula	paulas@fpcdanville.org
Kelly	kellywhitehair@fpcdanville.org
Myanne	myannecompton@fpcdanville.org

Be an Active Family

10 Tips for Becoming More Active as a Family

Physical activity is important for children and adults of all ages. Being active as a family can benefit everyone. Adults need 21/2 hours a week of physical activity, and children need 60 minutes a day. Follow these tips to add more activity to your family's busy schedule.

1) **Set specific activity times**. Determine time slots throughout the week when the whole family is available. Devote of few of these times to physical activity. Try doing something active after dinner or begin the weekend with a Saturday morning walk.

2) **Plan ahead and track your progress**. Write your activity plans on a family calendar. Let the kids help in planning the activities. Allow them to check it off after completing each activity.

3) **Include work around the house**. Involve the kids in yard work and other active chores around the house. Have them help with raking, weeding, planting, and vacuuming.

4) **Use what is available**. Plan activities that require little or no equipment or facilities. Examples include walking, jogging, jumping rope, playing tag, and dancing. Find out what programs your community recreation center offers for free or minimal charge.

5) **Build new skills**. Enroll kids in classes they might enjoy such as gymnastics, dance, or tennis. Help them practice. This will keep things fun and interesting, and introduce new skills!

6) **Plan for all weather conditions**. Choose some activities that do not depend on weather conditions. Try mall walking, indoor swimming, or active video games. Enjoy outdoor activities as a bonus whenever the weather is nice.

7) **Turn off the TV**. Set a rule that no one can spend longer than 2 hours per day playing video games, watching television, and using the computer (except for school work.) Instead of a TV show, play an active family game, dance to favorite music, or go for a walk.

8) **Start small**. Begin by introducing one new family activity and add more when you feel everyone is ready. Take the dog for a longer walk, play another ball game, or go to an additional exercise class.

9) **Include other families**. Invite others to join your family activities. This is a great way for you and your kids to spend time with friends while being physically active. Plan parties with active games such as bowling or an obstacle course, sign up for family programs at the YMCA, or join a recreational club.

10) **Treat the family with fun physical activity**. When it is time to celebrate as a family, do something active as a reward. Plan a trip to the zoo, park, or lake to treat the family.

—Article submitted by Diana Szaras….a publication of the United States Department of Agriculture

Monthly General Fund Giving

	2018	2017	2016
Given as of April 22	$11,143	$11,280	$16,347
Total for Year	$55,001	$168,410	$186,034
Pledges for Year	$149,998	$151,636	$164,551

Monthly Deacons' Fund Giving

	2018	2017	2016
Given as of April 22	$445	$565	$2,284
Total for Year	$5,344	$14,469	$16,064
Pledges for Year	$2,180	$1,804	$3,184

Pentecost Offering

As one of the four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

Since the Pentecost Offering started in 1998, Presbyterians have raised more than $14 million for ministries that benefit younger members of God's family. Please give on **May 20** so that we can continue to support children, youth, and young adults in their journeys of faith and life.

One Great Hour of Sharing Update

The Mission/Outreach team expresses deep gratitude to the congregation for your enthusiastic participation in the 2018 One Great Hour of Sharing. Thirty-three individuals/families gave an astounding $1,128.37! For the sake of comparison, we received $546 in 2017 and $306 in 2016.

You can trust that your gifts will go to help people through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People, which provides resources and education to oppressed and disadvantaged communities working to overcome poverty and injustice through initiatives they own and directly benefit from.

Mission Matters

FPC Mission Activities

June 25-28, 2018-Vacation Bible School-'God's Galaxy'

July, 3rd week, 2018-'Growing Kids Thru Fishing'

Please share with the Mission and Outreach Team any ideas you have or opportunities you are aware of for doing mission in our community.

Joyce DeBoer
Lisa Taylor
Diana Szaras

Everything You've Always Wanted to Know about Women's Circles

First Presbyterian Church has three women's circles, which meet for devotions, Bible study, fellowship, and church and community projects. We meet as individual groups during ten months of the year, and in July and August, we all meet together for lunch at a restaurant. In December, we hold a Cookie Walk/Bazaar.

Ruth Circle
Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month
at 10:00 AM in the church board room
followed by lunch at a local restaurant.
Chair: Pat Tarr

Rachel Circle
Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month
at 9:30 AM in the church boardroom.
Chair: Joyce Schmitt

Lydia Circle
Meets the 4th Thursday of the month
at members' homes at 2:00 PM
Chair: Virginia Stewart

We would like to begin a new Circle for women who are not available to meet during the day. If you are interested in joining this new one or in becoming part of one of the existing Circles, please contact the church office at (217) 422-0541 or Pat Tarr at (217) 427-5203.

Anniversary Party

The congregation is invited to a 50th anniversary celebration for *George and Libby Milner* on Saturday, **June 2**, 2:00 to 4:00 PM in the church lounge. The party will be given by their daughters, Ann (and Kenny) Ostrom and Julie (and Brian) Weber, and grandchildren Jacob and Lauren Weber.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Bob Kesler ..... May 3
Kolby Riggle ..... May 11
Peggy Welch ..... May 11
Andrew Torrey ..... May 14
Caitlin Whitehair ..... May 16
Bob Rudolph ..... May 19
Janice Kain ..... May 21
Dorothy Loving ..... May 22
Robert Crabb ..... May 24
Rita Adams ..... May 26
Virginia Stewart ..... May 31

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Bob & Janet Martin……..May 2
Mike & Joyce Schmitt……..May 7

We've Got Mail

Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for the card congratulating me on passing my [ordination] exam. Your support and encouragement means more to me than you will ever know. I apologize for my tardiness in sending this note of thanks. My ministry here is going well. It's such a joy to be supported by all you wonderful folks!
Blessings,
James Potts

Dear Church Family,
Thanks to all of you for your cards, prayers, and thoughts on the death of my mother. I appreciate your concern and support.
Jeanne Burke

Session Highlights

A stated meeting of the Session was held on April 17, 2018. Highlights of the meeting include:

- 9 out of 15 elders present
- Pastor Ann excused herself from the meeting while the other Session members met with Rev. Jason Schiller, liaison to the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry, to discuss this period of discernment about pastoral leadership and the Holy Cow! survey that is in process
- Heard the good news that the One Great Hour of Sharing offering was twice the level of 2017 and three times the level of 2016, and that average worship attendance is trending up (96 this year, 93 at this time in 2017)
- Affirmed the faithful work of the Safety Team and the safety plans they are creating
- Approved a one-year lease for 3 rooms in the Education wing to Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Central Illinois at $350 per month (with tenant to provide their own janitorial needs)
- Approved a one-year lease for 1 room in the Education wing to Peer Court at $1200 per year
- Voted to revise the Music Director and Organist job descriptions to reflect reclassification of the positions to part-time non-exempt (from part-time exempt)
- Voted to hire Justine Whitehair and Elizabeth Briggs as nursery attendants (pending completion of hiring paperwork)
- Learned that Mitsuko Yofune has submitted her resignation as organist/pianist and will be leaving at the end of May

Staff Change

At the end of May, we will say goodbye to *Mitsuko Yofune*, who has so ably played the organ and piano for our worship services in recent months. May 27 will be her last day with us. Please offer her your thanks and congratulate her on her new teaching position in San Jose, California. We wish her much success and joy in her move and new job!

What's "New" in the Church

The Facilities Team says hello to everyone. It's May and spring is hiding. I hope it gets here soon. A new group has been formed called The Monday Morning Mamas. We meet the first Monday of each month. Our next day to meet is **May 7**. We will be cleaning the round room next to the Sanctuary and the Lounge. Everyone is welcome to join us. We start at 9:00 AM and work about 2 hours, then go to Charlotte's for coffee or lunch. We have already organized part of the kitchen and the Sanctuary.

A new lease has been signed with Big Brothers, Big Sisters. They will be returning to our building soon. We have also leased a room to Peer Court, which will be located on the second floor of the Education Building.

The old round tables and the metal folding chairs are available to the congregation, free of charge. If you are interested in any of these, please let the office know how many you need. They will also be offered to other churches in the area. After May 1, we will try to sell the rest of them.

There have been no major repairs in the month of April. Yeah!!!!!!!!! The gym sound equipment has been purchased and installed for the variety show.

Keep "This Old House" in your prayers and hope that God will hear our prayers and provide the resources to

News from the PSEI

Our Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois (PSEI) website has a fresh new look! If you haven't checked it out yet, please dive in and take a look around. While the former web address (www.psei.net) will automatically get you to the new site, the new web address is www.pseillinois.org. On the left side of the home page, you will find buttons that will get you to the various pages and information within the site. You'll notice more pictures and graphics that complement the work of PSEI.

From the Desk of the Deacons

Spring is in the air as well as festivities! The Deacons are scheduled to have a busy month in May when we present the 50-year pins to long-standing church members and then celebrate the achievement of our graduates. Please join with us in congratulating those who have been faithful members of First Pres and those who have completed either their high school or college degree. We are so glad these members are in our church family! Please watch church bulletins for more details on these upcoming special events.

If we are going to have festivities, why not "Christmas in July"? It is never too early or late to talk about Christmas! The Deacons would like to be able to include toys, books, and clothing in the Christmas baskets we put together next December and ask for your help in this project. During the month of July, we ask that you bring any of the above mentioned items to the church to be included in the baskets. We will have designated areas where you can drop off your items, but by announcing it now, you can begin to purchase some things when you see them on sale. Remember how excited you were on Christmas morning when you woke and saw that new toy or book? That is what we want our families to feel like when they receive the Christmas baskets from First Presbyterian. Our hearts will be filled with love knowing that we have helped make their Christmas bright!

Thank you in advance for your contributions to Christmas in July, and your many contributions (both financial and physical) to the Deacons and First Pres. We continually appreciate your help with baking cookies, assisting with coffee hour, and delivering Meals on Wheels and flowers to those in the hospital. May God continue to bless you!

In Christ's Service,
Nancy Boesdorfer

Thanks to Open House Volunteers

Our Open House for the neighborhood took place on Thursday, April 5 at 6:30 PM. Several people from the neighborhood toured our church home. It was fun and enlightening to talk to them and let them know what we do. We made some new friends and hope to see them again. We all enjoyed the fellowship of just being together, talking, and sharing. Since the Open House used the grant for Mission from the Presbytery, we will be sharing photos of the evening on the Presbytery website.

We would like to thank everyone who came to help—those who baked cookies, hosted tables (which looked great!), guided tours, and mingled with our guests, as well as those who just showed up to do whatever was needed.

The Open House is not just a one-time event. The Connecting Team is looking to host several different events at the church over the summer to which we can invite our neighbors. Look for more information in the coming months about these opportunities for hospitality.