

# CONNECTIONS

First Presbyterian Church  
321 N. 5th Street

September 2011

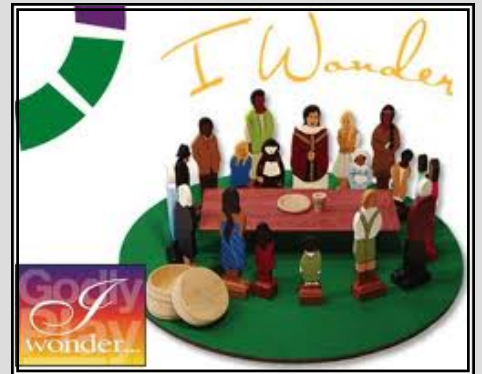
Volume X, Issue 9

## What is Godly Play? ...Sue Genereux

On September 18th, **Kickoff Sunday**, we will begin an exciting new journey for our children at First Presbyterian Church. September 18 will be the first day of the Christian formation program called Godly Play.

But what is Godly Play? Godly Play is a Christian formation program for children 3-12 years of age, that is an imaginative approach that supports, challenges, nourishes and helps guide children's spiritual journeys.

Godly Play does not teach by 'rote,' or a 'transfer of knowledge' that we have of God. Our method of storytelling encourages them to discover their own particular relationship with God. Every individual has his or her own unique relationship to God which is formed by how they have experienced God in their life. So in Godly Play, we don't box God in and tell them "this is who God is," or "this is what you must believe," instead we present the story that reflects back to the Hebrew tradition of passing on the stories of God's people while sitting in a circle. As the stories unfold we offer time for them to reflect and explore the stories so that they can *know* God and the scriptures—not just know *about* God or *about* the scriptures.



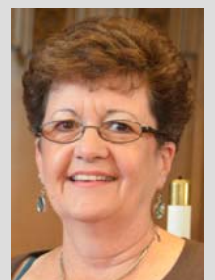
- Godly Play teaches children to respect space, materials, and people, learning to enjoy each with care and patience.
- Godly Play teaches kindness and mutuality. Godly Play teaches that everything in God's creation is charged with the possibility of holiness, including each of us, and that we are in relationship with everything in creation.
- Children use their imaginations as they retell the stories in their own way through art and other craft materials.
- In Godly Play they get to use their imaginations by playing with the stories—because we tell them, "the stories are all yours." It is play—but it is godly.

As the new Interim Director of Education Ministries, I feel blessed to be joined by Sue Sattler, Barb Garcia and Rex Beetner in supporting and guiding the children this year. We are looking forward to learning and exploring the sacred stories with them.

If you have questions or would like to support this program through donations of craft materials, such as scraps of material, yarn, etc., please let me know.

My office hours are Mon – Thurs, 9-2:30 p.m. Or contact me at [DirEd@1stpresb.org](mailto:DirEd@1stpresb.org), or 750-0553.

Though we will be the ones with the children on Sunday mornings we will need the love and support and the prayers of the First Presbyterian family of God.



# Glimpses of Grace...by Rev. Deb Kinney

There have been some questions of late regarding our attendance sheets and attendance numbers in the bulletin, so I thought now would be a good time to address them.

**What do we do with the attendance sheets we ask you to sign each Sunday?** They are collected in the offering plates as well as later in the week when volunteers Craig and Sue Gilchrist clean the sanctuary. Sandy Morrison and I look at the names, note those who are visitors, those who would like to receive the newsletter or those who have a note for the church office. Letters are written to visitors, welcoming them to our church and inviting them to return, names are entered into the data base so those wishing to receive communication from us will receive it, and everyone in attendance is entered so we have a record of who attended when.

**Why don't the attendance numbers recorded by the ushers always match the attendance recorded in the bulletin the next week?** Sometimes people come into the sanctuary late, after the numbers are recorded. Sometimes ushers need to brush up on their arithmetic skills. Sometimes the ushers fail to count the pastor, liturgist or organist. Sandy always takes the numbers the ushers/communion set-up provides and then matches those numbers against the attendance sheets as well as weekly contributions provided via checks or offering envelopes.

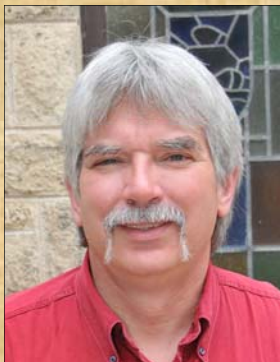
**Group spiritual direction?** Many of you know that I am in training to become a certified spiritual director. Spiritual direction is somewhat new to the Reformed tradition, but has been a part of the Roman Catholic and Episcopalian traditions for centuries. Basically, spiritual direction involves spending time talking about what God is doing in our daily lives. It is not counseling or therapy, but rather active listening in which the director and directee seek the Holy Spirit's wisdom and insight as lives are shared.

I have taken four intensive classes in January 2010 and '11 and have written papers and been involved in my own spiritual direction. I have been spiritual director to 5 individuals these past 18 months and have received supervision for those sessions. I also have taught on spiritual direction at the annual retreat our Presbytery hosts for people seeking to be ordained as Ministers of the Word and Sacrament. I still have more assignments and 2 more intensive classes to take next January before I graduate from San Francisco Theological Seminary in May 2012.

One of my assignments this year is to do group spiritual direction. Group spiritual direction, as its name implies, departs from the traditional one-on-one sessions with director-directee. Instead a group of 4-6 people gather to reflect on Scripture, music or art and then share insights of where they see God in their midst.

I currently am looking for people who would like to be a part of this group process with me. You do not have to be a member to participate. At this point, the group would meet 4 weeks for an hour each week. The day and time have not yet been determined and will be decided based upon the schedules of those who wish to participate. If you are interested in learning more, or if you wish to 'sign up', please email me at [deb@1stpresb.org](mailto:deb@1stpresb.org) or call the church office, 752-6626.

## Bat man.....



A **HUGE** thank you to **Mark Scott**, who came to our aid on Wednesday, when a bat decided to come to the Women's Bible Study . None of us is terribly fond of the little creatures, so Mark came with a handy grabber and put the bat in a box so it could be relocated.

Then a few hours later he made a return trip to capture another one upstairs in the sanctuary. He is truly our hero and "bat man".

# From Your Trustees.....

## Balance Sheet July 31, 2011

Two Rivers B&T Endowment	408,938.75
F&M Endowment	443,666.17
John Hanna Trust	947,472.38
Memorial Funds - Knopp, Hemann	4,001.82
(New Covenant Funds)	
First Scholarship (New Covenant Funds)	40,879.88
Endowment for Mission (New Covenant Funds)	42,659.19
Faith Scholarship (New Covenant Funds)	49,008.50
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>1,936,626.69</b>
**** F&M Checking	49,596.40
F&M Savings	41,799.78
Presbyterian Foundation Income Account	54,336.98
Petty Cash	361.20
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>146,094.36</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,082,721.05</b>

### Fund Balances:

	Amount
Endowment	852,604.92
Endowment for Mission (New Covenant Funds)	42,659.19
General	97,534.85
John Hanna - Trust	947,472.38
Memorial Funds - Knopp, Hemann	4,001.82
(Presbyterian Foundation)	
Memorials & Gifts	18,753.23
Misc. (Scholarship, Non Profits, Pass Thru, CE Fund)	6,450.58
Organ Restoration	23,020.70
First Scholarship	40,889.88
Faith Scholarship	49,333.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,082,721.05</b>



# Paint-A-Thon

This house at 905 N. 3rd Street is the house that FPC will be painting on September 10th. We have a great crew already signed up, but anyone is welcome to help.



# Mariners...by Cindy Murphy

The Mariners group is busy planning activities for the next few months. Some of the highlights include:

**C4C:** The inaugural event for the C4C group (Cruising for Christ) will be on Sunday, September 25, and will be a ride to Nauvoo with lunch at the Hotel Nauvoo.

**Soup Supper:** A soup supper will be held on Saturday, October 22, with serving from 4:30 to 7:00p.m. Cost will be \$5.00, and will include all-you-can-eat soup (ham & bean, and potato), cornbread, desserts, coffee, tea, and lemonade. The congregation will be asked to donate desserts.

**Progressive Hay Rack Ride:** A progressive hay rack ride will be held on Saturday, November 5, at 2:30 p.m. The ride will begin at the Carter/Lyon home where fishing and snacks will be available. We will then progress to the Kinney Kompound for snacks and games. The ride will end at the Murphy home for a bonfire and s'mores. This activity is for families with children & youth, but all are welcome. Anyone who does not want to ride on the hay racks can follow in cars.



**Card Game:** A card game tournament will be held at the Carter/Lyon home on Saturday, February 18. More details will be determined later.

**Garage Sale Fundraiser:** A "Junk in the Trunk" sale will be held in conjunction with the Blue Grass Festival on March 30-31. Organizers of the event suggested that area groups might want to consider holding a garage sale during that time to provide things for the attendees to do when the music is not front and center, and to help the groups, and they will help with the advertising. More information will be forthcoming.

**Golf Outing:** The idea of including other downtown churches in the summer Invitational Golf Outing is being discussed.

**Other:** Members continue to think of activities that fall into the fun, fundraising, or service categories, so stay tuned!

Remember that while the Mariners are the planning group for the various activities listed, everyone is invited to participate in any of the activities. You are also invited to attend any of the Mariners meetings that you wish. We often need a headcount just to be sure we have enough food and seating, but everyone is welcome!

# Presbyterians at Play—Golf Outing at Flint Hills



## Shoebox Ministry...by Mike Gorman

### Shoe Box Packing

1. Standard size shoe box or small plastic container. Can gift wrap lid & bottom separately, but not required.
2. Choose boy or girl for gift, and select age group: 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14. Obtain proper boy/girl label in Fellowship Hall. Mark the correct age group on the label & tape it to the box top.
3. Add gifts to the box that will bring delight to a child. See the list of suggested gift items below.
4. A donation of \$7 for each shoe box will cover shipping & other costs. Individuals may want to just fill a shoe box or two and others may want to just provide funds to cover the above mentioned expenses. A check should be made out to First Presbyterian Church adding Shoe Box Gift to the memo line or place cash in an envelope marked Shoe Box Gift, and place in the Sunday offering or deliver to the church office.

### Gift List

**Hygiene Items:** toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, & washcloth.

**School Supplies:** pens, pencils & sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring & picture books.

**Toys:** small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch-A-Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), & Slinky®.

**Other:** hard candy & lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, & flashlights (with extra batteries).

**DO NOT INCLUDE:** used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.







# News-worthy Notes...



Please give a huge ‘thank you!’ to Mr. Shirley Webster. He spent more than 50 years (no, that is not a typo!) on the Property Committee and is still the ‘go-to’ man when you want to know anything about what makes this church building tick.

Everyone who volunteers their time is greatly appreciated. And any time one person is noted for their long service, others may be left out. We apologize in advance for that. However, if you know of a longtime volunteer you would like mentioned and noticed, please let the church office know.

There’s a new ministry in town and it’s rolling right along!

The Mariners are sponsoring **Cruising 4 Christ**, for anyone who rides motorcycles, drives classic cars or unusual vehicles and would like to ride together. The first C4C ride will be after church Sunday, Sept. 25th to the Hotel Nauvoo for lunch.

HOWEVER, none of the rides will be exclusive and anyone who would like to join the C4C-ers and/or meet them at their final destination is welcome. **C4C** hopes to ride monthly, weather permitting.



## Worship Services

**September 4<sup>th</sup>** The Ecumenical Singers will be providing the worship for this Labor Day weekend service.

**September 11<sup>th</sup>** In light of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11 this worship service will focus on God’s faithfulness and our hope in Him. Communion will be served.

**September 18<sup>th</sup>** *Kick-off Sunday!* We will be kicking off another season of ministry and Sunday school. Children 3 years to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will begin their time of Godly Play at 9 a.m. under the guidance of our new interim Director of Educational Ministries, **Sue Genereux** and **Sue Sattler**. Children in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will be taught by **Barb Garcia** and **Rex Beetner**. Worship will be at 10 a.m. and will feature singing *We are the Presbyterians!* and the *Rally Day* song. Tailgating refreshments will be offered after the service in Fellowship Hall.

**September 25<sup>th</sup>** We begin a sermon series on the letter of joy the Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Philippi.



**Kady Dewey** returns to the nursery, as our Nursery Attendant, after a two-year absence. She is entering her sophomore year at SCC, sings in Bel Canto, volunteers her time coaching the West Burlington junior high girls volleyball teams, and greets patrons with a smile at HyVee on Agency. Kady hopes to finish her AA degree in the spring, then transfer to either UNI or Western Illinois, completing a degree in Elementary Education.

## **Liturgists Needed**

We would like to have new voices this upcoming season of worship! If you can read slowly and clearly, we would like to invite you to consider being a liturgist. The upcoming Sundays listed below are still open, so you can sign up for a Sunday you know you will be in worship. For more information or to sign up, please contact Randy Kinney at [4kinneys@gmail.com](mailto:4kinneys@gmail.com) or 319.457.6999.

Available dates are: **October 2, 23, & 30; November 6 & 20; December 11 & 18; January 1.**

# Serving You...

# Birthdays

## USHERS...

- Sep. 4 : \*Dick Fischer, Dennis Daedlow, Chuck Hanson, Bruce Morrison, Tom White
- Sep. 11: \*Curt Blom, Rex Beetner, Ken Newton, Sandy Russell, Toshiko Velharticky
- Sep. 18: \*Mike Gorman, Carl Boley, Barb Garcia, Caleb Hemphill, Wilma Hemphill
- Sep. 25: \*Craig Gilchrist, Jim French, Elmer Johansmeier, Pat Saldeen, Shirley Webster

## GREETERS...

- Sep. 4: Bonnie White, Terri Huddleston
- Sep. 11: Lou Harter, Jean Miller
- Sep. 18: Dick Fischer, Mark & Deb Scott
- Sep. 25: Marilyn Malcom, Polly Rein

## LITURGISTS

- Sep. 11: Karen Dewey
- Sep. 18: Barb Garcia
- Sep. 25: Randy Kinney

**ELDERS:** Arnie Anderson, Marcia Bailey, Claudine Capps, Ted Francis (clerk of session), Jesse McCormick, Bruce Morrison, Cindy Murphy, Marilyn Nuss & Sue Sattler

**DEACONS:** Barbara Blom, Curtis Blom, Brenda Frederick, Sue Gilchrist, Jo Hamilton, Lou Harter, Don Krekel, Penny Rucker, Carl Siefken, Donna Siefken, Linda Tickel & Ken Velharticky.

**TRUSTEES:** Carrie Blom, Carl Boley, Tom Murphy (Secretary), Debbie Opiekun (President), Marilyn Leight (Treasurer), Ed Whitmore (Vice President).

## COMMITTEE MODERATORS:

- Educational Ministries:  
 Congregational Life: Claudine Capps  
 Deacons: Ken Velharticky  
 Endowment: Wilma Hemphill  
 Memorials: Marcia Bailey  
 Welcoming: Sue Sattler

- Nominating: Bruce Morrison  
 Personnel: Ted Francis  
 Maintenance: Arnie Anderson  
 Jesse McCormick  
 Mission: Bruce Morrison  
 Worship: Marilyn Nuss

- September 1 ..... Bob Bowen  
 ..... Gretchen Fields  
 ..... Heidi Van Winkle
- September 2 ..... Debbie Opiekun
- September 3 ..... Jim French  
 ..... Jaime Heuvelmann
- September 4 ..... D'Lissa Scott
- September 6 ..... Marilyn Leight  
 ..... Sophia Preader
- September 8 ..... Buck Jones
- September 9 ..... Ava Brandenburg
- September 10 ..... Barb Miller  
 ..... Laverne Morrison  
 ..... Ella Jo Schneden
- September 16 ..... Jay Hohenthaner
- September 17 ..... Andrew Osborn  
 ..... Penny Rucker
- September 18 ..... Brady Heuvelmann
- September 21 ..... Elmer Johansmeier
- September 22 ..... Dewain Hulett  
 ..... Ed Whitmore
- September 24 ..... Craig Bray
- September 25 ..... Bob Preis
- September 26 ..... Jerry Lohmann  
 ..... Donna Siefken  
 ..... Jeanne White
- September 27 ..... Janel Baker  
 ..... Joy Laue
- September 30 ..... Matt Heuvelmann



# Per Capita

**Per Capita for 2011 is \$30.40/member.** Our church will pay \$9,150.40 for 2011 regardless of the amount contributed towards this expense by our members.

Thankfully, many of you choose to help us meet that cost. If you would like to contribute your portion, you can send a check to the church office or drop it in the offering tray with Per Capita written in the memo line.

The amount is figured as follows:

1. 2 adult members: 2 X \$30.40 = \$60.80
2. 2 adult members + 1 confirmed youth member: 3 X \$28.95 = \$91.20
3. 1 adult member + 1 confirmed youth member + 1 child but not yet confirmed (often at end of 8th grade): 2 X \$28.95 = \$60.80

If you have questions about your Per Capita, feel free to call the church office. Thank you for your help in meeting this expense.



# Relay for Life

First Presbyterian Church participated in the Des Moines County Relay for Life. A special thanks to **Pat Whitmore** who was the team leader and organizer extraordinaire. The team sold the most luminaries ever in the 27-year history of the relay and were awarded an afghan. The team also raised around \$2,500 and was the only group to have someone walking from start to finish.





# Church Connections

## Area Churches Blood Drive

September 12th at United Church of Christ (at the top of Snake Alley) will host the annual blood drive this year. It will be from 1:30—6:30 p.m.

If you have not given blood since July 18th, you will be eligible to give on September 12th.



## PW News

September 7, 2011



Location: Church @ 9:45 a.m.  
Co-Hostesses: Marilyn Nuss  
Nancy Lazenby  
Brunch: Thank Offering  
Study Leader: Eva Ann Elmer  
Mission: Come to Church with a Can

## Thank You

Dear FPC,  
Thank you so much for the scholarship money. I always appreciate your support of my education.  
Sincerely,

**Elizabeth Abramsohn**

Dear Church Family,  
Thank you so much for the scholarship money! It will definitely help in college. I am extremely excited to start my freshman year at Kirkwood in Iowa City on August 22nd. It will be an eventful year.

Thanks again,

**Erika Abramsohn**

### **From Marcia Bailey:**

Thank you so much for all the support you have shown during my surgery recovery—the visits, the cards, the book, the plant, and all the prayers. Being remembered certainly speeds healing. Prayer is powerful!

## Yum-Yum Club

Thursday, September 15th

The Yum Yum's will travel to Aggie's on the Green at the Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course for dinner. They will meet in Fareway grocery store at 6:00 p.m. to carpool. Call the Gormans to make reservations at 208-0842.



**Congregational Life Committee** invites you to come to their Planning Meeting on September 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Polly Rein, 417 W. Burlington Avenue (parking is allowed on both sides of the street). If you have ideas but cannot come to the meeting, you can call Polly or Claudine Capps.

## **Fall Schedule:**

October 11 Prayer Meeting  
at the church at 6:30 p.m.  
Come for Music, Scripture and Prayer









October 29 Ecumenical Masquerade Party  
For ages 55 & over in Fellowship Hall.  
1st UCC, Zion UCC, The Congregationalist Church and 1st Methodist will be invited.

There will be prizes and food. Please wear a costume, mask or hat.



Masquerade Party



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:30 AM Gems	2 	3
4 10:00 AM Worship	5  LABOR DAY 	6 7:00 PM Mission Committee	7 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	8 10:30 AM Gems	9	10 Paint-A-Thon
11 10:00 AM Worship/Communion 9:00 AM Welcoming Committee	12 1:30 PM Blood Drive @ UCC	13	14 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	15 10:30 AM Gems 1:30 PM Hope Haven Birthday Party 6:30 PM Yum Yum Group	16	17
18 9:00 AM Sunday School/Godly Play 10:00 AM Worship Kickoff Sunday! 	19 7:00 PM Session Meeting	20	21 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	22 10:30 AM Gems	23	24
25 9:00 AM Sunday School/Godly Play 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Cruising 4 Christ	26 4:15 PM Trustees Meeting	27	28 7:15 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	29 10:30 AM Gems	30	

## Pastor's Report...Rev. Deb Kinney; July 2011

### Worship

3 worship services  
2 baptisms  
1 ordination/installation

### Education

Prep for Bible studies/sermons  
2 Supervisory sessions

### Christian Education

Led 4 Bible studies on Wednesday mornings

### Other

Connections articles  
Educational Ministries

### Counseling

13 Drop-ins/appointments/calls

### Community

3 Spiritual Direction sessions  
1 wedding  
Asked to join Board of Directors for Young House

### Church Meetings

Trustees  
Welcoming  
Staff (2)

Vacation: 2 Sundays, 2 weeks

### Church Activities/Events Attended

Yum Yum