

**Presbyterian Times**  
**October, 2016**

First Presbyterian Church  
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**A Message from Our Pastor**  
Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley

This is such a glorious time of year when the seasons change and the fall colors take over. What a gift to be living in a place with four seasons. In Minnesota, the locals said we had 4 seasons, it's just that spring, summer and fall all happen in July. The rest of the year is winter! In southeast Georgia we had two seasons, warm and hot. Few of the trees changed. Even the oak trees were ever green.

The seasons within the church year are changing too. Soon the liturgical colors will change from green to purple as we begin again the spiritual journey from Advent to Easter to Pentecost to Christ the King. Sometimes the repetition may seem tedious, but there is also comfort in the old stories, in the ritual that surround our high holy days, in the ways we move through our lives as we also journey through Christ's.

As these seasons change, I pray we will all be able to face our own life transitions. God's Holy Spirit is always at work in us, is always at work for us. When we face grief, the Holy Spirit provides comfort. When we face turbulent times, the Holy Spirit provides peace. When we face confusing and discomfoting times, the Holy Spirit provides counsel. God is with us throughout all the seasons of our lives.

As we move through the end of one church year and into another, may we all know the gift of God's presence each day.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Lou Ellen

**Christian Education Information**  
Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley

On Sunday October 30, Pastor Lou Ellen will begin a Sunday School class entitled Presbyterian 101. This class is for anyone interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church or anyone else who would like to brush up on what it means to be a Presbyterian style Christian. The class will meet after worship October 30 – November 27.

## Stewardship and Finance News

Barbara Ford, Treasurer

Fund balances for the month of August:

- a) General Fund Balance of \$17,993.71
- b) Reserve Fund Balance of \$223,692.57
- c) Renovation Fund Balance of \$1,779.37
- d) August Income of \$26,867.91
- e) August Expense of \$21,700.99
- f) Net **Increase**/Decrease of income over expenses of \$5,166.92
- g) Positive balance due to an annual pledge payment paid in full in August

The stewardship committee discussed the reserve fund balance at length. The reserve fund was near \$400,000 in 2012 thanks to a generous bequest. Four years later, the reserve fund balance is roughly cut in half (\$223,692.57). At the current spending rate, the reserve fund balance will be depleted in approximately **SEVEN** years.

***The fall pledge drive begins soon.*** Congregation members will be receiving letters in the mail shortly. As you look to the future and how you can financially support the church, we ask that you consider an increase in your pledge from the previous year. Collectively, small pledge increases will have a profound effect on the overall budget of the church. We are a generous congregation when it comes to meeting the needs of doing God's work in our community. Thank the good Lord. Let's keep up the tradition.

## Membership News

Britt Whitaker

On Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> there will be a campfire/wiener roast at the Whitaker's at 5 p.m. The hot dogs will be provided. There will be a sign up board outside the office where you may let us know how many are coming and what you would like to contribute; side dish, snack, beverage, etc. Please bring your lawn chairs. In case of inclement weather, we will move indoors and play games.

**When life takes away something of value, it's always given in return.**

Michael J. Fox, actor



Rachel Allison, Director

By now, you know the drill!!! We are busy! We are learning! We are growing and we are having FUN!!

October is shaping up to be a great month. The University of Missouri Extension (Jean Day) is coming to teach our pre-k kiddos about nutrition and we are looking forward to that. We will head to the Presbyterian Manor to sing our Halloween songs, to Pete's Pumpkin Patch for a fun-filled morning and continue with Chapel, Music and Movement with Mary Kwantes and P.E. at The Centre. We also look forward to Frank and Carol Jessup and Mary Alofs reading to our afternoon classes! And of course, HALLOWEEN!!

We had the opportunity to walk our pre-k classes to Phelps County Bank for a tour this past month! It was so interesting. Did you know when the PCB building was a hotel Marilyn Monroe stayed there? See, even I'm learning! ☺ The bank executives gave each student a dollar! Talk about exciting! Then we crossed the street to Heavenly Divine Cakes for a yummy cupcake and walked back to school. What an adventure! Now the students want to know where we are walking next!!

As always, please keep us in your prayers as we make decisions, make plans and shape these young lives!

God Bless!

### **Presbyterians Cook**

Carol Jessop

Cheryl Koederitz gave me this recipe for eggplant. It is easy and you don't heat up the kitchen on hot days and it is very good.

#### **Eggplant Parmesan Microwaved**

- 1 medium eggplant (1 ½ # peeled)
- 1 T. olive oil
- 1/3 cup Italian bread crumbs
- 1 T. corn meal
- 6 T. grated parmesan cheese
- 2 cups thick spaghetti sauce
- 6 oz. mozzarella cheese (1 ½ cups grated)

1 egg

Cut eggplant crosswise into ½ inch slices. In pie plate, beat together egg and oil. Blend in bowl bread crumbs, cornmeal and 3 T parmesan cheese. Dip eggplant in egg mixture and dredge both sides in bread crumb mixture to coat. Arrange slices overlapping in 12 inch (or 9 inch) baking dish. Cover with paper towel. Microwave 10-14 minutes or until eggplant is tender. Remove from microwave and spoon sauce over eggplant. Sprinkle with mozzarella and remaining parmesan. Cook uncovered on high 5 minutes or until cheese is melted.

**Everything God does is purposeful. And since God is in each of us, each of us has a purpose.**

Iyalana Vanzant, Life Coach

### **How well do you know our congregation?**

Did you know that Joanne Zap has an affliction – which she can't say NO when asked to help. She retired two years ago from Washington University in St. Louis and has devoted her time to helping Phelps County Senior Citizens. To quote Joanne, "I am on the ABLE Senior Center Board, Rolla Nutritional Site board, Phelps County Senior Services initiative board and the Robert Kyle Center board. Additionally, I am an elder and serve on the Stewardship and Finance Committee at the First Presbyterian Church. As you can see my condition is serious and husband, Steve, hopes I can find a cure soon."

Did you know that Marilyn Schmidt grew up in the rural St. James area on the Bell Family farm.

She attended a one room country school until the sixth grade, then was one of the first classes in the newly built Rolla Junior High School....(what a change that was!!)

She was a nurse at St. Johns Hospital in Springfield, MO for nine years until a blind date arranged by her Mother, Illa, and a mutual friend brought her back to Rolla. On June 5, 1982 she married Ed in the First Presbyterian Church, Rolla.

She continued her nursing career working for Dr. Carol Saunders at the Russell-Young Clinic, and later for Dr. Jim Bass.

She and Ed have a very spoiled Golden Retriever rescue dog name Auggie.

### **From the Office**

Betti Jo Pyatt, Office Manager

### **Happy Birthday wishes go out to the following for October:**

Judy Fox, Jesse Moon, Christopher Bennett, Jennifer Denbo, Betty Lemp, Dwight Look, David Wallen, and Eugene Zanders.

We have no anniversary celebrations this month.

**Upcoming Events for the month:**

- October 1 PW Rummage Sale 8 am – 2 pm
- October 2 – 8 Pastor Lou Ellen out of the office for vacation
- October 2 Rev. Susan Rosenbaum will preach in Pastor Lou Ellen's absence
- October 7 – First Friday Night Out at the Locker Room at 6 pm
- October 10 – 16 Pastor Lou Ellen out of the office for continuing education
- October 16 Rev. Bob Morrison will preach in Pastor Lou Ellen's absence
- October 22 Campfire/Weiner Roast at the Whitakers at 5 pm
- October 30 Pastor Lou Ellen will begin her new class Presbyterian 101 after worship
- October 31 Halloween – Everyone stay safe