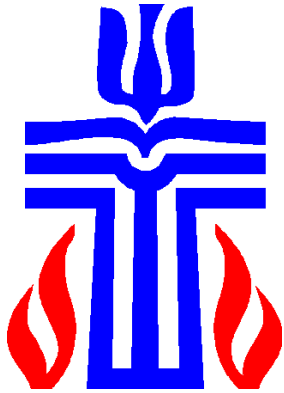


August 17, 2011



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
406 NORTH MAIN  
ROCKFORD, IL 61103

The First Word

Sundays at First Presbyterian Church  
Scriptures for the Day

**August 21, 2011: 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Exodus 1:8-2:10      Psalm 124      Isaiah 51:1-6  
Psalm 138      Romans 12:1-8      Matthew 16:13-20

**August 28, 2011: 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Exodus 3:1-15      Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b  
Jeremiah 15:15-21      Psalm 26:1-8      Romans 12:9-21  
Matthew 16:21-28

**September 4, 2011: 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Exodus 12:1-14      Psalm 149      Ezekiel 33:7-11  
Psalm 119:33-40      Romans 13:8-14      Matthew 18:15-20

**September 11, 2011: 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Exodus 14:19-31 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21      Genesis 50:15-21  
Psalm 114      Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13  
Romans 14:1-12      Matthew 18:21-35



*Dreaming*

This summer my dreams have been about staying cool! With this unbearable heat wave, it seems to be the only thing on many people's minds. Those of us that work in the church are dreaming other dreams. Sally dreams of a church that actually hears her gentle request for help and partnership in teaching Sunday school and staffing the nursery. Valarie is dreaming of getting to know each of you better and of having teams of people help with the newsletter mailing. Liz is dreaming of music our small but mighty choir can sing each Sunday to help each of us worship God fully. Yes, each of us is dreaming.

So what I am really dreaming? I am dreaming of a 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church that dreams and acts upon those dreams. We have had some dreams that have been acted upon this year: a new idea about Wednesday enrichment brought new people to our church, classrooms have been revived and reborn; rooms around the church are getting facelifts with fresh paint and new furniture. All of these dreams are little signs of new life. Our new church sign will be able to share our new life with the community. All of these ideas started with dreams.

God uses dreams as amazingly powerful tools to share the God's hope and love for us. I believe that when we stop dreaming we are either dead or totally disconnected from God. We pray the Lord's Prayer most Sundays and we say thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven. Is this a dream? I wonder if we lived this dream of God's dream for us to act upon how this would it change how we do things in the church.

What dreams has God placed in your mind? What are you dreaming about?

Blessings,  
Pastor Beth

# Church Family News



## August

21 Betsy Burgoyne	28 Richard Baker
Martha Pearse	29 Bill Larson
26 Joyce Pogue	Don Sessler
27 Julia Jones	31 Dana Drochowski
	Grant Henderson
	Linda Roy

## September

02 Sue Howard	10 Jack Harvey
Mary Beth Roy	11 Marge Kildow
04 Doris Long	12 Kimberly Lewis
David Sbragia	Colton Parr
05 Lyn LaPage	Kristina Skidmore
06 Anders Pauley	Carol R. Smith
07 Rebecca Martin	12 Shirley Spencer
Stephen Miles	14 Natalie Goss
Joyce Zartman	Joan Pennock
08 Amanda Gawlik	16 Kelly Englehart
Aaron Ryan	Ward Wallace
09 Tanya Anstedt	
Scott Pool	

Please keep Billye and Claude Vernam in your prayers. Claude has a bypass surgery scheduled for August 24.

## Rock River Food Pantry

August is going to be a big back to school food drive at First Pres! There are certain items that the pantry needs and I know we all have them in our cupboards.

Rice	Juice (low sugar)
Jelly	Peanut Butter
Fruit Cups	Mac and Cheese
Applesauce	
Breakfast Cereal (nutritious)	

Please consider donating today, so someone can enjoy a meal tomorrow!



Congratulations to Amanda Rowald and Chris Gawlik on their wedding July 31 at the Church by the Side of the Road, Rockton. Amanda's grandparents are Doris & Willis Rowald.

Congratulations to Shirley Thompson on becoming a Great Grandmother, July 26, to Avalene Maybelle Thompson. Parents are Nicholas & Abby Thompson. Grandparents are Rick & Theresa Thompson.

Congrats to Marilyn Hartzog, Bruce Johnson, Alice Pampe, Rich Lierman, and Bill Baskin for a job well done on renovating the First trade shop. The "Morning Glory" cafe has now officially evolved into the Fair Trade Center. Thanks to Linda Roy and the Property committee for organizing the paint and the design. Come visit and purchase Fair Trade coffee, jam and jelly, chocolate, and other gift items, supporting workers of the world.

## Financial Report—July 2011 General Fund Year to Date

Jan. 1: Beginning Balance	\$950.23
<u>Income:</u>	
Pledges	91,339.57
Other income	13,943.45
Transfers Trusts Fund	99,429.89
Totals	205,726.14
<u>Expenses:</u>	
General Budget	168,998.25
Transfer designated	20,650.48
Totals	\$189,648.73
July 31: Ending Balance	\$16,077.41

# News from Sally



## Nursery Volunteers

We are in need of weekly volunteers for the Nursery. With Learning Hour for all ages returning on September 25, we ask that our volunteers be available to serve in the Nursery for both Worship and Learning Hour. Please sign up in the Dining Room or at the Nursery door.

## Multi-Age Sunday School Classes

Join us in the Dining Room for three dates in fall to try something new. We will gather children and adults together for a round-table discussion on a group project. We will base each class on one of the traits of the Fruit of the Spirit. Relevant scripture will be discussed followed by a group activity.

Sunday, September 11 - "Love"

Sunday, November 6 - "Joy"

Sunday, November 13 - "Peace"

(This will be the only learning hour option offered on these days.)

## What's in a Name?

After much discussion and brainstorming; we have finally come up with wonderful names for our newly improved classrooms and education hallway which truly represent their purposes. The wing, as a whole, will be called "First Fruits Education Wing." In keeping with the theme of harvesting, and growing things (children, in this case) we named each room to represent the growth that was taking place in that particular area.

Nursery "Little Sprouts Nursery"

Puppet Room "Creation Patch"

Classroom/Library "Disciples Garden"

Art Room/ Play Area "Sonshine Park"

Thank you to all who gave generously of their time and money to make these rooms so appealing.

## Advent Drama/Musical Children and Adults needed!

Plan ahead! This drama will be presented during Worship on December 18.

Rehearsals will be during the Learning Hour on Nov. 20 & 27, Dec. 4 & 11.

## First Hands Puppets

Begins Wednesday, September 14 through December 13

4:45—5:45 p.m.

*(in the puppet room, "Creation Patch")*

We are looking for new puppeteers of ANY age! Our first performance is scheduled for Sunday, October 30.



## August 2011 First Health JOIN US FOR A BUSY AUTUMN AT FIRST PRES!

Hello everyone! We have several exciting events scheduled for this autumn involving First Pres, and I hope you'll make plans even now to participate in these wonderful opportunities!

- We will be hosting a 1 ½ hour mini-CHIP Healthy Beginnings program following the Sunday morning service on September 4. This is the Sunday the Dixieland Docs will be performing during the service, and it is also On the Waterfront weekend. The program runs from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Join us for the 9:30 a.m. service, get that good parking place, see the program, and take off for On the Waterfront afterward! Light refreshments will be served after service as always.
- The Fall Enrichment series “Live Healthy Rockford—Stewardship of Life” series runs Wednesdays from September 14 to December 7 (excluding November 23). A delicious vegetarian meal prepared by Chef Diana will be served at 6:00 p.m., followed by a series of speakers and presentations featuring such diverse topics as stewardship of money, ecology, travel safety, cancer prevention and survival, happiness, civility, health and disease prevention, and science and faith. You will certainly find something to pique your interest! Or, you may instead prefer a group discussion following the meal on the book, “Everybody’s Normal Until You Get to Know Them”, by John Ortberg. More information and the opportunity to register will follow!
- If you missed Stanford University’s 6-week Chronic Diseases Self-Management Program in 2009 and would like to attend one, a Wednesday series will be held in the lower level of Rockford Health Physicians, from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. starting September 21 and ending October 26. Facilitators are Terri Young and Sue Shutt, both of RHPH. Please contact Diabetes and Nutrition Services at Rockford Health Physicians to register at (815) 971-2550.
- On Sunday, October 9 after the 9:30 a.m. service until around 1:00 p.m., there will be an Environmental Health Fair in the dining room. Some tentative topics include wells and septic, lead, radon, and mold abatement, bed bugs, soil conservation, cancer-causing environmental toxins, environmental violence. The Health Department will also be there to give flu and pneumonia shots. We are also hoping to have live entertainment! More on that later. A light lunch will also be available for purchase, at minimal cost, as last year.

I am looking forward to seeing you all this fall—and please, feel free to invite friends, family, and neighbors to any or all of these great events!

Your parish nurse,  
Terri Young, RN

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**The Bridge Clinic Waiting Room** is the next room to be painted. We have Mike and Holly buying one gallon of paint and we need two more gallons of paint, which will take care of that room plus three doors. We have plenty of painters for the waiting room the last week of August. Let Joyce or Linda know if you would be willing to buy some paint.



### *Church Office Hours*

Monday: 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.  
Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.  
Wednesday: 1:00—5:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.  
Friday: 1:00—5:00 p.m.

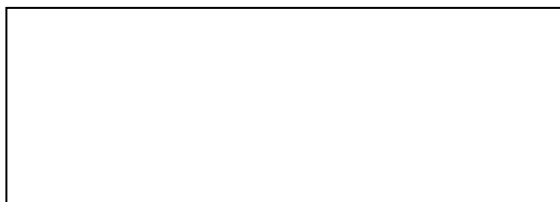




**First Presbyterian Church**  
**406 North Main**  
**Rockford, IL 61103**

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## ***CALENDAR OF EVENTS***

**Saturday, August 20**

10:00 a.m. Bridge Clinic

**Sunday, August 21**

9:30 a.m. Worship Service  
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time  
 11:00 a.m. Sunday Learning

**Tuesday, August 23**

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast

**Wednesday, August 24**

5:00 p.m. Fellowship Committee  
 7:00 p.m. Property Committee

**Saturday, August 27**

10:00 a.m. Bridge Clinic

**Sunday, August 28**

9:30 a.m. Worship Service  
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time  
 11:00 a.m. Sunday Learning

**Tuesday, August 30**

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast

**Thursday, September 1**

1:00 p.m. AFSCME

**Saturday, September 3**

10:00 a.m. Bridge Clinic

**Sunday, September 4**

9:30 a.m. Worship Service  
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time  
 11:00 a.m. Healthy Beginnings Mini CHIP Class

**Monday, September 5**

Office Closed

**Tuesday, September 6**

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast

**Thursday, September 8**

First Word Deadline

**Friday, September 9**

1:00 p.m. Horizons Bible Study  
 4:00 – 10:00 p.m. OTW Parking

**Saturday, September 10**

10:00 a.m. Bridge Clinic  
 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. OTW Parking  
 6:00 p.m. Mariners Turkey Roast

**Sunday, September 11**

9:30 a.m. Worship Service  
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time  
 11:00 a.m. Multi-age Sunday School Class  
 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. OTW Parking

**Tuesday, September 12**

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast  
 5:30 p.m. Finance Committee  
 6:00 p.m. CE

**Wednesday, September 14**

First Word Mailing  
 4:45 p.m. First Hand Puppets  
 6:00 p.m. Enrichment Dinner  
 7:00 p.m. Healthy Beginnings