

# **FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**May / June 2012**

***FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN-***

**ENCOURAGED**

In last Sunday's message, I mentioned that, for Christians, the Resurrection has redefined the realm of life possibilities, and has given us new birth and new life.

Having said that, this new reality seems more real for us at certain times than others, doesn't it? Perhaps, when hope seems far away, we may even feel guilty about not trusting God enough, or seeing clear enough through the lens of faith.

I've said a lot in the past year about practicing discipleship, because it's so crucial for us to claim the life that God intends for us. However, the hard truth for so many of us is that, if we do not see progress in our spirituality (whatever the metrics or expectations may be), then we can get discouraged, and may stop or slow our practice of discipleship.

By abiding in God over the long haul, we can see that God is at work in us, and that the practice of discipleship is making a difference in our lives, and others' lives as well. At times, we will all wonder if this is the case. A long-range perspective enables us to see that God's Spirit is building spiritual building blocks within and among us, even when our outward circumstances may indicate otherwise.

If you sense that you are out-of-practice in practicing discipleship, I encourage you to be in prayer for how best to get in the active discipleship mode. We all need daily renewal. As I mentioned this past Sunday, a recommended daily prayer is to ask God to *raise us to new life in Christ this day* – meaning: each and every day!

For practical steps that provide greater opportunity for this kind of renewal, here are a few suggestions:

- + offer a more engaged listening ear to someone in your household today.
- + re-commit to weekly corporate worship (whenever possible)
- + visit a homebound member or two on a semi-regular basis (and ask them what kind of assistance might be most valuable to them)
- + give a bit more of your time, talent, and resources to Kingdom work (including the work of First United Presbyterian Church)

I'm sure that you can think of many other ways to practice discipleship too – especially after praying daily on this topic for at least a week. The important thing is not to achieve measurable physical/temporal success, but to grow deeper into Christ-like living.

May you be encouraged in your life of discipleship today!

To God be the Glory!

Pastor Charles

#### **PINCKNEYVILLE KIDS CLUB SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM**

The Pinckneyville Kids Club Summer Food Service Program will start June 11 and go until August 10. This FREE lunch program is available to everyone under 18 free of charge. Income levels do NOT matter this year because some new census data that makes our site available to everyone. Adults and senior citizens are invited to eat for \$3 per meal. The serving time will be 11:45am to 1:15 pm and there will be a bus service again this summer, but the schedule is not available at this time. It will be housed at the Methodist Church , but church members from all area churches are encouraged to volunteer once a week. St. Bruno's made a very nice donation of canned and boxed goods to help us get started. Some great items to donate are canned peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, applesauce and green beans. Ketchup, Ranch dressing, paper towels and toilet paper are other necessities. Food costs for the program are mostly covered by a federal grant run by the Illinois Board of

Education, but bus service, gas, and air conditioning really raise the cost of the program. So these donations REALLY helped out last year.

Lori Schmidt, Coordinator

# May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Relay for Life  Yard Sale 8am-noon
	Scouts			Church Women United  UCC10 am  Lunch		
6	7	8	9	10 Girl Scouts	11	12 Health Fair 8-11 am PJHS
PCHS Graduation	Scouts			Book Club meets at Cheryl Schneider  7 pm		
13	14	15	16 RFL Bank Night  Session 7pm	17	18 Relay for Life 6pm-6am Pinckneyville Fairgrounds	19 Relay for Life Yard Sale
Mother's Day					25 American Legion Poppy Sales	26
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Communion  Galum  Memorial	28 American Legion  Memorial Day Service 9am City	29	30	31	30	

Service and Cemetery Meeting 2pm	Cemetery					
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**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

**3-Nancy Williamson...16-Hugh Malan...Virginia Richart**

**17-Doris Dowell...19-Ted Cunningham**

**MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

**15-Dick & Gayl Pyatt**

**JUNE 2012**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Girl Scouts	15	16 Baby Shower
17 Father's Day	18	19	20 Session meets 7pm	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

**2- Sharon Higgerson ...7-Glenn McKinstry...Chuck Dobrinick**

**8-Doug Malan...11-Alex Chapman...Bill Collier**

**13-Ali Cannedy...21- Mary Ann Shillinger ...24-Steve Cannedy**

**28-Hank River...30-Dick Tabing**

**The PINCKNEYVILLE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL HEALTH FAIR will be May 12, 2012 8am to 11 am at the Pinckneyville Jr High School.**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be at the United Methodist Church July 22 thru July 26 from 6 to 8:30 pm. The theme is SKY. Save anything that you come across for decorating...birds, butterflies, airplanes, hot air balloons, clouds, etc.**

**DEACONS' RELAY for LIFE Team raised almost \$1500 at the April 14 Road Block at the Pinckneyville Square . They will be having FREE Yard Sale on Saturday, May 5- 8am to noon. Please bring items to sell and find some treasures for yourself. You may take all you wish just make a donation to the American Cancer Society.**

**Luminaries are available for \$10 each to honor those who have lost their battle to cancer and those who are survivors. The luminaries will be lit and displayed at the May 18 relay at the Pinckneyville Fairgrounds around the track at dusk.**

**Please join the team, make a donation, buy a luminary or just come to the Relay to support this worthy cause. The team will have a potluck supper at the Relay. Bring a dish to share and your lawn chairs. Members of the team include Dave Baranowski, Jim and Sharon Higgerson, Jim and Mary Ann Shillinger , Ted and Cathy Cunningham , Louise Schweizer, Sandy Kiehna, Elanore Cunningham, Bettie Ashauer, Jim and Pat Perkins, Wilma Templeton, Virginia Richart, Olivia Chapman, Barb Collier, Julie and Donnie Wilder.**

**April Finance Report**

**Income        \$6500.51**

**Expenses      5821.06**

**BOOKCLUB-The club will meet Thursday, May 10 at 7 pm at Cheryl Schneider's house. They will discuss the Pulitzer Prize winning book, Olive Kitteredge. If you need a copy of the book or additional information, please contact pat Perkins 357-5458 or Cheryl Schneider 357-9091. Bring a friend and enjoy an evening of fellowship**

**HOLY COMMUNION**  
**will be observed on**  
**Pentecost Sunday**  
**during regular worship (9 am)**  
**Sunday, May 27, 2012**