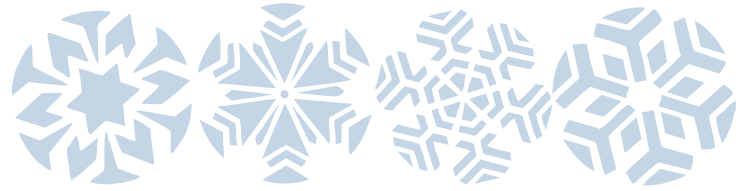


First United Presbyterian Church

Winter 2014 ~ 2015



FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

REMEMBERING THOSE IN CHRIST – AND OUR CALLING

At our last presbytery meeting, we remembered the elders of our constituent churches (including Pinckneyville & Murphysboro, of course!) who have passed away in the last year. The tolling of the bell, and the reading of the names, is a poignant moment for at least several reasons:

- ◆ We are reminded of some saints in the faith who have gone on to their heavenly home. In some cases, they are men and women who we knew well, and who taught us many valuable lessons.
- ◆ We are reminded that, though new life is brought into this world on a daily basis, we are also reminded that some existing lives pass from this world on a daily basis.
- ◆ In such a gathering, we are reminded that the legacy of any given elder can reverberate far beyond their immediate home and community.
- ◆ Our worship services and other gatherings will never be exactly the same again; they are always changing. Though this is the case for many reasons, a big part of this understanding is that earthly life is finite, and life is always in flux.
- ◆ Learning to “count our days” is a familiar teaching from Jesus, but takes on added meaning when we learn that another disciple has passed from this world.

It should remind us to frequently ask “What are we here for?” i.e. What is our purpose and calling in life?

Perhaps we know to give the overarching answer that we are called to be disciples of Christ. But without asking this question frequently of God and of ourselves, we risk being able to give this general, memorized answer, without being able to identify the follow-through that God requires of us.

Too many in our society today let the demands of mammon dictate what they think, say, and do, rather than letting God have the last word – His Word.

It is my prayer that we, as disciples of Christ here in Pinckneyville, will help point the way, by being more open to God's leading, by being more open to change and growth, and by allowing God's Spirit to help us be the Church anew, especially in this season that we celebrate new birth.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Charles

Mardi Gras 8K Run



***2nd place for Nate in the Mardi
Gras 8K this year!***



***3rd place for Pastor Charles in
the same race.***

Our Thinking vs God's Thinking!

"It's impossible. " All things are possible. (Lk. 18:27)

"I'm too tired. " I will give you rest. (Mt. 11:28-30)

"Nobody really loves me. " I love you. (Jn 3:16)

"I can't go on. " My grace is sufficient. (II Cor. 12:19)

"I can't figure things out. " I will direct your steps. (Prov. 20:24)

"I can't do it. " You can do all things. (Phil 4:13)

"I'm not able. " I am able. (II Cor. 9:8)

"It's not worth it. " It will be worth it. (Rom. 8:28)

"I can't forgive myself. " I forgive you. (I Jn. 1:9 & Rom. 8:1)

"I can't manage. " I will supply all your need. (Phil. 4:19)

"I'm afraid. " I have not given you a spirit of fear. (II Tim. 1:7)

"I'm always worried and frustrated. " Cast all your cares on Me. (I Pet. 5:7)

"I don't have enough faith. " I've given everyone a measure of faith. (Rom. 12:8)

"I'm not smart enough. " I give you wisdom. (I Cor. 1:30)

"I feel all alone. " I will never leave you or forsake you. (Heb. 13:5)

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 231

Matt. 1:16 - 2:5

Birth of Jesus

A	G	C	H	I	L	D	M	A	E	R	D	M	E	O
H	N	B	M	H	P	E	S	O	J	D	A	X	E	W
N	O	G	I	O	L	O	R	D	F	G	I	I	C	L
C	I	L	E	R	T	L	H	A	I	L	R	A	R	N
O	E	G	Y	L	T	H	T	U	E	V	P	D	O	E
N	F	P	R	O	P	H	E	T	S	P	A	T	V	T
C	U	I	A	I	E	E	I	R	E	B	S	D	I	T
E	L	J	M	R	V	R	N	A	A	I	A	G	D	I
I	F	E	E	M	I	D	R	O	R	T	P	N	P	R
V	I	S	M	P	A	E	E	H	I	E	S	I	D	W
E	L	U	S	M	D	N	C	G	O	N	H	K	I	D
D	L	S	C	I	L	B	U	P	D	S	U	F	A	O
S	T	S	E	I	R	P	L	E	R	E	E	Y	R	R
S	W	E	J	U	D	E	A	O	L	L	L	I	F	E
F	M	A	T	T	H	E	W	O	K	E	E	P	A	H

AFRAID APPEARED
 ANGEL CONCEIVED
 BIRTH CHRIST
 CHILD DIVORCE
 DAVID FATHER
 DREAM FULFILL
 EXILE HEROD
 HOLY HUSBAND
 JESUS IMMANUEL
 JEWS JOSEPH
 JUDEA MATTHEW
 KING MOTHER
 LORD PEOPLE
 MAGI PLEDGED
 MARY PRIESTS
 STAR PROPHET
 UNION WORSHIP
 VIRGIN PUBLIC
 WIFE SPIRIT
 WOKE WRITTEN

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

December 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	2 Brownies & Daisies 5-7	3	4	5	6
7 GT- Food Tirzah	8 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	9	10	11 Girl Scouts	12 Master Gardens Fellowship Hall 4:30 - 7:30	13
14 GT- Food MaryAnn	15 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	16 Brownies & Daisies 5-7	17 Session Meeting 6pm	18	19	20
21 Communion Bettie	22 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	23	24 Dave 6pm Christmas Eve Services	25	26	27
28 MaryAnn	29 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	30	31			

January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	6 Brownies & Daisies 5-7	7	8 Girl Scouts	9	10
11	12 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	13	14	15 Book Club 7pm	16	17
18	19 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	20 Brownies & Daisies 5-7	21 Session Meeting 6:00	22	23	24
25 Annual Congr. Meeting & Breakfast 8am Installation of elders	26 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	27	28	29	30	31

February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	3 Brownies & Daisies 5-7	4 Generosity Team Presentation (hosted at FUPC)	5	6	7
8	9 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	10	11	12 Girl Scouts	13	14
15	16 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	17 Brownies & Daisies 5-7	18 Ash Wednesday Session Meeting 6pm	19 Book Club 7pm	20	21
22	23 Scouts 6:00 - 7:30	24	25	26	27	28