

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
321 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET  
SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS 62701

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DEADLINE for January issue:  
December 18, 2006



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# UPDATE

### NEW OFFICE HOURS

Beginning in  
January 2007, the  
**church office** will be  
open on Fridays from  
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

*The monthly newsletter of First Presbyterian Church*

*December 2006*

#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

321 S. 7th Street  
Springfield Illinois 62701  
(217) 528-4311  
www.lincolnschurch.org

#### STAFF

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**Shannon Yost and Selena Friar**  
Co-Directors of Children, Youth and  
Family Ministries  
shannon@lincolnschurch.org  
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**Dr. Rudolf Zuiderveld**, Organist  
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tom@first-pres-church.org  
**Cindy Cass**, Office Manager  
cindy@first-pres-church.org  
**Pat Olson**, Bookkeeper  
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**Mike Self**, Security  
SPARC, Janitorial

**OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

#### WORSHIP/CLASSES

**Sundays:**  
9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School  
9:00 a.m. Adult Education Programs  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Sanctuary  
**Wednesdays:**  
5:30 p.m. Vespers

Please submit all information for inclusion in  
the newsletter to the church office to Cindy at  
the **e-mail address** listed above.

Editorial Coordinator and  
Production-Cindy Cass

## Special Events and Worship Services

### December 2006

**Saturday 2nd: Parents Day Out**  
12:00 p.m.

**Friday 8th: Generation X Gathering @ Mariah's Restaurant**  
6:30 p.m.

**Saturday 9th: Craft and Bake Sale**  
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Sunday 10th: Children's Musical *The Flower of the Holy Night***  
10:30 a.m.

**Sunday 10th: Pancake Brunch in Fellowship Hall**  
11:30 a.m. (after worship)

**Thursday 14th: Heartland Brass Band Concert**  
7:00 p.m.

**Sunday 24th: Service of Lessons and Carols with Communion**  
10:30 a.m.

**Sunday 24th: Candlelight Communion Service**  
8:30 p.m.

**Sunday 31st: First Night Springfield**  
7:00 p.m.

### Advent Brown Bag Recital Series

12/6 - Paula Irby, soprano with Archer Logan, saxophone

12/13 - Krista Steller wind trio

12/20 - "Dueling Organists"

Nichol DelGiorno & Rudolf Zuiderveld

Recital time: 12:15-12:45pm

Admission is free, although donations are appreciated.

Brown Bag lunches will be available at the door for a bargain price.

*Pastors Column*

Let us reclaim Santa Claus. After all, the idea of Santa evolved from the persona of Saint Nicholas, a fourth-century bishop from Turkey.

The legend is that St. Nicholas was enormously generous to the poor, and that he was fond of children. It is also thought that he had a cascading white beard, which was not uncommon in those days, and that he wore the customary bishop's robes which were red and white. So, when you see Santa in red and white clothes with a white beard — that is a fairly authentic portrayal of Saint Nicholas.

The bishop did not use reindeer as transportation, but he probably traveled by donkey. He did not give toys as our current notion of Santa Claus does: He gave food and clothing. He did this because he believed in the greatest gift of all — Jesus Christ.

Over the centuries many traditions have shared the story of St. Nicholas. The British called him Father Christmas, the French called him Papa Noël. The Dutch called him Sinter Klass. *Christianity Today Magazine* editor Ted Olsen wrote that Martin Luther reclaimed the Christ child as the bearer of gifts — in German, Christkindl, a name that evolved into Kriss Kringle. The name, of course, became Santa Claus in the United States.

Pam and I used to tell our very young children that each time they saw a Santa Claus, they were not seeing the "real" one: The "real" Santa Claus is the *spirit of giving* that we revive around the time of the birth of Jesus. As our children grew out of believing in a Santa Claus, they matured into the magic of the season by fully participating in the *spirit of giving* that is prompted by God's call to us every day. Giving, after all, is magical. (Remember the story of the loaves and fishes — that is a story about giving and sharing.)

Santa Claus is not the symbol for a magical person that gives us things. For us Christians, he is a reminder that we give in response to the love of Christ. That is what the historical Saint Nicholas did so well. Remember when you see Santa Claus this Christmas season — that you see the representation of one who became a symbol, a model to us, because he was inspired by God's love to do mission in the world. Let us remember to help those less fortunate all year, and let us be especially generous to those in need this season.

May God grant each of you a blessed Christmas!



Kasavada  
Alfred J. Hayes



# Holiday Craft and Bake Sale

Saturday, December 9  
8 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall



All of you “crafty” church members and friends  
**WE NEED YOUR CRAFT DONATIONS and BAKING TALENT!**

We'll need LOTS of donations to make this a success! Please contact Cindy in the church office to find out how you can donate items or sign up to help during the sale. This is a major event that will raise funds for various needs to support the every day workings of the church.



Not “crafty” or a baker?  
Monetary donations will also  
be accepted and applied  
toward more crafts being  
made for the sale.



# Children and

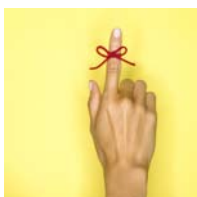
## What You Can Look Forward to on December 10, 2006!!!!

The children's musical, *The Flower of the Holy Night*, by Pam Walker and Pam Andrews, may help us all learn something we didn't know about the poinsettia! Through music and drama, our youth will encourage us all to experience the warmth and wonders of Christmas. Please, join us at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 10, to support our youth!

Following the musical, the Christian Nurture Committee invites the entire congregation for brunch in Fellowship Hall. We will be serving up heaping plates of pancakes for everyone in order to promote fellowship and Christian love!



COLOR ME!



**SAVE THE DATE!!**  
**December 2, 2006**  
**12 p.m. – 4 p.m.**  
**Parent's Christmas Shopping Opportunity**  
**Youth activities at church!**



## Angels Coming For 11<sup>th</sup> Year

Christmas tree angels will be here for the eleventh year on **December 3**. This will be the day our church members may choose one each of 30 angels which will be represented by cardboard angels on a small Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall.



Each angel card will tell the name, age, and wishes of a child who has one or both parents in prison. A church member who selects an angel card from the tree will purchase the items written on the angel spending \$30 to \$40. The member then needs to Christmas wrap the gift (or gifts) and bring to church **no later than the morning of December 17**. If a member cannot attend church on the 17<sup>th</sup>, the gift (or gifts) may be left at the church office **before the 17<sup>th</sup>**.

A committee has contacted the guardians of these children of prisoners to find out needs or wishes. The same committee will deliver the gifts to the children's homes on December 17. Members of the committee are Rhonda Downing, Kathy Hoffman, Barbara Murphy, Kathy Mutman, and Barb VonBehren.



As we approach the holiday season, this is a good time to take a "time out" and make sure that you are practicing good health habits for yourself and your family. Take a few minutes to look over the HEALTH QUIZ below. If you should fall into the "needs improvement" category, give yourself an early gift and focus on those areas that you can change. If you are taking good care of yourself and others—continue those practices throughout the holiday season and beyond.

"HE WHO HAS HEALTH HAS HOPE  
AND HE WHO HAS HOPE HAS  
EVERYTHING." Unknown



Members of the **Health and Healing Team** are:  
Barb Murphy, LuAnn Atkins, Barb Olson,  
Susan Enlow, Carol Harden, Riitta Anderson,  
Linda Wheal, Sharon Bilotti, Barb VonBehren.

## TAKE THE FOLLOWING HEALTH QUIZ

*Place a check mark in the box beside the response that reflects your habits.*

- 1. I try to maintain a normal body weight.
- 2. I feel that I get enough sleep [typically 7/8 hours per night]
- 3. I eat fresh fruits and vegetables 5 times a day
- 4. I always wear a safety belt when driving.
- 5. I have my blood pressure taken regularly and am aware of the results.
- 6. I have my total cholesterol and my HDL and LDL levels taken yearly.
- 7. I walk instead of drive whenever feasible.
- 8. I am able to identify the situations and factors that overstress me.
- 9. I keep a record of my medical history and the history of my family.
- 10. I have routine yearly physical checkups
- 11. I minimize my salt intake.
- 12. I avoid driving my car after drinking any alcohol.
- 13. I try not to eat snacks of candy, pastries, and other "junk" foods on a regular basis.
- 14. I eat no, limited or low-fat meats and watch my intake of saturated fats.
- 15. I engage in some form of vigorous physical activity at least three times a week.
- 16. I take time each day to quiet my mind and relax.
- 17. I try to spend some time each day doing something I simply enjoy.

To assess your status:

0-7/Needs Improvement, 8- 12/Good, 13-17/Excellent!

You may also use this checklist as a way to develop a "health risk reduction plan." Simply select a statement in an area that you want to improve and then start making a change.

# Happenings

## Faith and Reason

Join the ACEs' Gathering at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday in the library. During December, listen to top Christian thinkers tackle the deep questions related to faith and life today. We are Children of the Enlightenment. We believe in reason and using the mind that God gave us. Where does Faith fit or not fit in with a life of reason? You participate via DVDs and group discussion following each presentation.

December 3<sup>rd</sup>: *What Can we Expect from Prayer?*

December 10<sup>th</sup>: *Don't I Have a Right to My Personal Rights?*

December 17<sup>th</sup>: *How Can Anything Good Come Out of This?*



### Special Thanks to Mary Kay McCabe

ACEs would like to send a special bouquet of thanks to Mary Kay McCabe for the outstanding sessions she led during October on Enneagrams, or nine personality types. We learned about the basic personality types and their relationship to Jungian and Myers-Briggs personality types. What complex and surprising creations we are!

Many thanks, ACEs. ~ Roy Wehrle

### Advent Retreat - A Quiet Time

"The Christ Within" Reverend Ed Liddell

Saturday, Dec. 16, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Jubilee Farm on Old Jacksonville Road

Sign up before December 12 by calling church office, 528-4311.

All are welcome, including non-members. \$10

Questions? Call LuAnn Atkins, 498-7987.

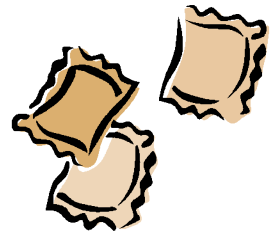
### International Human Rights Day December 10

People all over the world will be observing this day which was established by the United Nations.

Springfieldians in support of human rights for all persons have an opportunity for witness by attending a candlelight vigil at 5:00 p.m. on the State Capitol steps by Abe Lincoln's statue. As we Americans attempt to sort out truth from falsehood and to continue to act in accordance with constitutional principles, this day gives us a chance to rededicate ourselves to respecting the dignity of each person.

### Food Pantry Request:

P A S T A  
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n e r t h  
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h l l b  
a l e  
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Whatever shape you choose, bring it on down to the food pantry in December.

Winter is coming on and needs increase. Warm and hearty pasta is comfort food of the highest order. Please give generously of this stick-to-the-ribs stuff.

It will be particularly welcome at this season!

### Heartland Brass Band - Thursday, December 14, 7:00 p.m. FPC Sanctuary

The Heartland Brass Band consists of about 24 top notch area musicians. We typically play British brass band style of music but have a variety of numbers in our repertoire, including those with a 19th century flavor. Several of our musicians play in the Springfield Municipal Band, Taylorville Municipal Band, Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, and also the 10th Cavalry Civil War Band. The band is available for concerts. Jim Smith is the Conductor. For more information contact Richard Stuemke, Manager, at trumpet1503@sbcglobal.net <<mailto:trumpet1503@sbcglobal.net>> .

# *This -N- That*

## MEALS ON WHEELS NEWS:

### MARCH FOR MEALS:

Thanks to Larry Shoudel, Clark McKee and the generous support from many of you members sponsoring us, our church raised \$450 to help pay for meals for those individuals that need the service and cannot afford the \$5.50. If you would like to contribute, or forgot to send yours in, please feel free to send it to The American Red Cross-Illinois Capital Area Chapter, 1045 Outer Park Drive, Springfield, IL, 62704. Be sure and mark it for March for Meals and then either First Presbyterian Church or one of our names. Thank you for all of your support!

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Our week to deliver Meals on Wheels will be February 20 through the 24<sup>th</sup>. We will not deliver on Monday as it is President's Day. More information to come with the January newsletter.

### DRIVER'S NEEDED:

Between now and the time that we deliver, there are no churches signed up to deliver meals. If you would like to be put on the list to be called to deliver meals, call Trisha at the Red Cross at 522-3357 extension 234.

## OTHER RED CROSS NEWS:

If you know of elderly, disabled and low-income homeowners that need small repair jobs done, like porch repair, painting, step repair, wheelchair ramp repair/construction or weatherization, there will be a group of adults and youth from around the country who will be spending the week of June 24 – 30 in our community performing projects like these. This is a faith based group called Group Workcamps and can be reached at [www.groupworkcamps.com](http://www.groupworkcamps.com) if you know of anyone that might qualify for this free service. The deadline is November 30<sup>th</sup>, so you must do it immediately. There will also be applications at church.

Church of the Brethren cooked and delivered meals to Meals on Wheels clients on Thanksgiving.

### Available for your Christmas giving

The Salvation Army Chicago Staff Band at First Presbyterian Church  
1 cd - \$15.00

Robert Clark plays Bach on the Brombaugh Opus 35 at First Presbyterian Church  
2cd set - \$24.00

coming soon -  
Delbert Disselhorst professor of organ at University of Iowa in recital on the Brombaugh Opus 35 at First Presbyterian Church  
2 cd set



### December 2006 Birthdays

- 1 Ann Akers, Dan Dees
- 2 Dorothy Lanham
- 3 Candy Stout, Anna Stuebs
- 6 Margaret Lemme
- 8 Sharon McKee
- 10 Elsie Heckler
- 11 Sam Noble
- 12 Susan Little-Allen
- 14 Maxwell Warren Alander, Nancy Spinner  
Judith Stephens
- 15 Joyce Freyder, Mary Leigh Roach
- 17 Amy Grimm, Mackenzie Rakers
- 19 Emma Frederick, Ogden Munroe  
Margaret VanMeter
- 21 Christie Cunningham
- 23 Dane Denby
- 26 Carroll Pickering, David Steele
- 28 Kelly Kerns
- 31 Barbara Myers



## LECTIONARY FOR DECEMBER 2006

- 3rd: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21:25-36
- 10th: Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6
- 17th: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18
- 24th: Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:47-55 or Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45(46-55); Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14;  
Luke 2:1-14(15-20)
- 31st: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17  
Luke 2:41-52

*All activities take place in the church unless otherwise noted*

## **December 2006**

### **2\*SATURDAY**

**12:00 p.m. - Parents Day Out**

### **3\*SUNDAY**

8:15 a.m. - Chapel Worship Service

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens

9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming

10:00 a.m.- Fellowship Interval

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour

### **5\*TUESDAY**

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II

### **6\*WEDNESDAY**

**12:15 p.m. - Advent Brown Bag Recital**

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering

- Christian Nurture Committee

6:30 p.m - First Pres Knitting Group

- Film Club

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

- Friends of the Sangamon Valley

### **7\*THURSDAY**

12:00 p.m. - Personnel Committee

5:30 p.m. - Yoga Class

7:00 p.m. - Deacons

- Parents Without Partners

7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

### **8\*FRIDAY**

**6:30 p.m. - Generation X Gathering - Mariah's Restaurant**

### **9\*SATURDAY**

**8:00 a.m. - Craft and Bake Sale**

**10:00 a.m. - Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal**

6:00 p.m. - Second Saturday Supper Club

### **10\*SUNDAY**

8:15 a.m. - Chapel Worship Service

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens

9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming

10:00 a.m.- Fellowship Interval

**10:30 a.m. - Worship Service/Children's Christmas Pageant**

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour

### **11\*MONDAY**

6:00 p.m. - Faith Circle Potluck

### **12\*TUESDAY**

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II

### **13\*WEDNESDAY**

**12:15 p.m. - Advent Brown Bag Recital**

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering

6:30 p.m - First Pres Knitting Group

- Film Club

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### **14\*THURSDAY**

4:45 p.m. - Worship & Music Committee

6:30 p.m. - Parents Without Partners

**7:00p.m. - Heartland Brass Band Concert**  
- Session

7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

### **15\*FRIDAY**

9:30 a.m. - Fairhills Circle @ Presbyterian Home

### **17\*SUNDAY**

8:15 a.m. - Chapel Worship Service

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens

9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming

- Children's Sunday School

10:00 a.m.- Fellowship Interval

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour

### **19\*TUESDAY**

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II

12:00 p.m. - Building and Grounds Committee

### **20\*WEDNESDAY**

**12:15 p.m. - Advent Brown Bag Recital**

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering

6:30 p.m - First Pres Knitting Group

- Film Club

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### **21\*THURSDAY**

5:30 p.m - Yoga Class

7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

### **24\*SUNDAY**

**8:15 a.m. - Chapel Worship Service**

**8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens**

**9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming**

- Children's Sunday School

**10:00 a.m.- Fellowship Interval**

**10:30 a.m. - Service of Lessons and Carols/Communion**

**11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour**

**8:30 p.m. - Candlelight Communion Service**

### **25\*MONDAY**

Church and Office closed

### **27\*WEDNESDAY**

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service

6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering

6:30 p.m - First Pres Knitting Group

- Film Club

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### **28\*THURSDAY**

7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

### **31\*SUNDAY**

8:15 a.m. - Chapel Worship Service

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens

9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming

- Children's Sunday School

10:00 a.m.- Fellowship Interval

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour

**6:00 p.m. - First Night Springfield**