Back in the late 50’s and early 60’s many of you will recall that the United States began to be in a competition of sorts with Russia. It was called the “space race.” Both nations were eager to be the first to send someone into space, to orbit the earth, and ultimately, to land on the moon. Toward these goals, both nations exhausted a tremendous amount of time, effort, ingenuity, and, of course, money.

It was an exiting time. It was indeed a race and because of that, accomplishments and innovations from both nations happened very quickly. Yet, as it is with any project, there were people who weren’t convinced that the “space race” was in the best interest of the United States. Many people felt as if our time and resources could and should be used for other things. In response, and in an attempt to convince people that the goal of going to the moon was a good one, President Kennedy went to Rice University in 1962 and gave a speech in which he said these words:

“There is no strife, no prejudice, no national conflict in outer space as yet. Its hazards are hostile to us all. Its conquest deserves the best of all mankind, and its opportunity for peaceful cooperation may never come again. But why, some say, the Moon? Why choose this as our goal? And they may well ask, why climb the highest mountain? Why, 35 years ago, fly the Atlantic?

We choose to go to the Moon! We choose to go to the Moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard; because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one we intend to win!”

President Kennedy didn’t know it at the time, but this speech and this mission would be completed seven years later when an astronaut by the name of Neil Armstrong would reach the bottom rung on a ladder and then say before placing his foot on the surface of the moon, “That’s one small step for man; one giant leap for mankind.”

It may seem ridiculous to compare a church capital campaign to an entire nation to sending a human being to the moon. Yet, the dynamics are very much the same.

In both cases, we’re talking about a large number of people devoting themselves to a very large, and very difficult task. Just as it was with going to the moon, we choose a capital campaign because it is difficult. We choose it because it will, by nature, demand sacrifice and faith. We do it because God is constantly calling His people into endeavors such as this, both individually and corporately.

We do it because it provides us with an opportunity that may never come again. It is an opportunity to work together…to become one around a common cause…to pray and experience the movement of the Holy Spirit in powerful ways. We do it because God has big plans for us. We do it all so that God may be glorified in and through us.

See you in Church,

Rev. J.D.
First, what is a Circle? A Circle provides an “easy” way to build relationships among Circle members for a short period of time (four to eight weeks). JD and I have both served as Circle Facilitators (CFs) for 4 different Circles in 2015. All four groups have been successful at building relationships!

To grow Circle Ministry, we need Circle Facilitators (!) who are responsible for convening a Circle and providing some direction. CFs encourage the group members’ growth in relationships with each other and with God. Please contact me if you would like to know more about facilitating a Circle!

Cathy Alexander
cathy@firstpresmuncie.org; 765-289-4431

20/20/20

I’m excited to announce the beginning of a new men’s group that I will be leading here at First Presbyterian Church. It will be called 20/20/20 and it will meet on the second and fourth Saturday of each month starting on February 13. We will meet for an hour beginning at 7:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. If you want coffee, you'll have to bring your own because we will use that hour to simply study and discuss Biblical passages that apply to men’s lives. I’ll share more information with you about 20/20/20 over the next few weeks. As for now, I look forward to what I’m sure will be a new and wonderful program for men of all ages in the church.

--Rev. J.D.

Dominican Republic Trip News

We are collecting crayons (any size pack) to take to the Dominican Republic. We will use them during our Bible school and then leave them for our church in Mella and the community preschool. Donated crayons may be put in the tub in the north lobby.

In addition to taking crayons, every member of the team will take a Dorcas basket prepared by one of the following Whitewater Valley Presbytery Churches: St. Andrew, Muncie; John Knox, Indy; Connersville PC; First Meridian Heights, Indy; FPC of Grant Co.; Noblesville FPC; Second Pres, Indy; Bluffton PC; Portland PC, Whitelick; New Hope, Fishers. Dorcas baskets are full of VBS supplies to be used this summer by 11 different churches in the southwest region of the DR.

The following missionaries from our church will travel to Mella in the Dominican Republic, March 4-12:

Lauren Simmons  Michelle Kaitchuck  Jessica Burkey  Tracy Clinger
Autumn Duncan  Pastor Lee  Carrie Jo Miller  Brad Southwick
Dan Alexander  Cathy Alexander

The last meeting for team members is February 22 at 7:00 in the lounge.

If you would like to be a prayer partner for any of these missionaries, please contact Cathy (cathy@firstpresmuncie.org).
Volunteer are needed for the Christian Ministries Men’s Sleeping Room *February 14th - 20th.* from 6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Volunteers will prepare food for a meal from items in their kitchen or bring prepared food. There will be about 14 people at each meal. Volunteers will also say grace, serve the food, and clean up the kitchen. Christian Ministries is located at 401 E. Main St. in Muncie, upstairs on the 2nd floor, they will have a staff person there. For questions, call Michelle Kaithchuck, home 747-9836, cell 748-4922.

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**Christian Ministries Food Pantry**

Each quarter of the year, members of the First Presbyterian Church volunteer to work at the Christian Ministries Food Pantry for three hours, 9:00 a.m.—Noon.

The pantry is located on East Main Street. The dates for this quarter are February 17, 18, & 19.

If you would like to volunteer, a sign up sheet is available at the information desk.

If you have any questions, please contact Janie Miller (765-289-3652; janiem13@att.net)

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**2016 SALVATION ARMY**

**Food Pantry Volunteer Schedule for First Pres**

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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Volunteers will be needed from 1:00pm until approximately 2:30-4:30 pm <em>Tuesday,</em> <em>Wednesday,</em> and <em>Thursday.</em> Three volunteers are needed each day. The Food Pantry begins at 1pm. Please arrive no later than 12:45pm If you would like to volunteer or for more information please check the bulletin board behind the information desk.</td>
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<td>April</td>
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<td>August</td>
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<td>September</td>
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**SALVATION ARMY PANTRY ITEM FOR FEBRUARY:**

**Personal hygiene items**

*(soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.)*

Please place your donation(s) in the cart in Fellowship Hall.
**First Presbyterian Pre-K Registration**

Registration for church members and current Pre-K families will begin February 1st! Open registration for the community will begin February 15th. You can register online at firstpresmuncie.org under the Pre-K and PDO tab. Any questions, contact Tracy Clinger at 751-7960 or tracy@firstpresmuncie.org.

“Ond all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children.” Isaiah 54:13

We have had a tremendous response to children’s bibles being in our pews by Easter! Within eight days 79 bibles have been purchased in honor or memory of someone special. If you are interested in supporting this ministry please complete the information below and return your form and payment to the church by March 13, 2016.

Our goal is two bibles per pew and we only need 25 more to reach our goal!

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**CHILDREN’S BIBLE FORM:**

Help us place 104 Children’s Bibles in the pews by Easter!

**Please complete one form per bible.**

**Cost:** $12.00 each

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

In Honor of _________________________________________________________________

In Memory of _________________________________________________________________

From (your name) _____________________________________________________________

Date you submit your form: ______________________________________

Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and indicate in the memo: Children’s Bible. Please submit this form with your payment to Tracy Clinger, the office, or place it in the offering plate.
**Branches** Upcoming Events  
To glorify God, Branches’ activities provide education, fellowship, mission, stewardship, and worship experiences for all junior high and senior high students. All gatherings are from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the church unless otherwise noted and will usually include dinner. Always check your email for more details and last minute changes. If I don’t have your email address, please send it to elinor@firstpresmuncie.org

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**February 10—Ash Wednesday**

**February 17—March 6**
**The Seven Deadly Sins**

**April 6—May 4**
**Angels**

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**February**

- **Feb. 7**: Super Bowl party! (6-halftime)
- **Feb. 14**: Volunteering at Parent’s Night Out (6-8:30)
- **Feb. 17**: Koinonia
- **Feb. 21**: All about: Lent (5-6:30)
- **Feb. 27**: Family Game Night! (6:30-8)
- **Feb. 28**: NO BRANCHES

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**Koinonia**

A night of food, fellowship, and learning for all ages! Koinonia (Koy-nuh-nee’-ah)-noun-Fellowship, Participation, Close Relationship [with God], Gift

**Wednesday Evenings** - Dinner together at 5:45 pm; Bible Study at 6:30 pm.

*RSVP’s are now required for childcare!*

Please contact Tracy Clinger (751-7960; tracy@firstpresmuncie.org) by NOON the Tuesday before Koinonia if you plan to attend and need childcare.

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**Prepare the Way of the Lord!**

The Holy Season of Lent is an essential time of the year for us to renew our relationship with the Lord by means of preparing ourselves for the events Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Our spiritual preparation begins with a very special worship service on Ash Wednesday, February 10. Starting at 6 PM in Fellowship Hall, we will offer a worship service that will include dinner and all of the elements of worship including the distribution of the ashes and the sharing of the Lord’s Supper. This will be a deeply personal and humble experience of the amazing grace of our Lord.

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In Summary

**Ash Wednesday Service** (including meal)  
Wednesday, Feb. 10, 6:00 pm  
Fellowship Hall

**Koinonia study of The Seven Deadly Sins**  
beginning Wednesday, Feb. 17, 5:45 pm  
Fellowship Hall

**Maundy Thursday Worship Service**  
Thursday evening, March 24  
Sanctuary

**Easter Services**  
Sunday morning, March 27  
Sanctuary
Can you name the team members?
If so, contact Cathy Alexander (cathy@firstpresmuncie.org; 289-4431)

Champions Church League-Summer of 1954

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2016 Flower Calendar

If you would like to provide flowers for a Sunday worship service during 2016, please sign up on the Flower Calendar posted behind the information desk. You will be contacted in advance of the date you request.

Upcoming available dates:
February 7th & 21st

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Winter Weather Parking

This season we are asking that you park in the North parking lot when it is snowy and/or icy.

Thank you!

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2016 Per Capita

Please help offset First Pres’ $17,153.50 Per Capita expense to Presbytery for 2015 by reimbursing the church for the per capita ($37.70) of each FPC member in your family. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian, memo: “Per Capita”. Thank you!
Fellowship Sunday & Adult Sunday School:

February 7—Fellowship Sunday
February 14-28
  • Group #1—The Case for Christ
  • Group #2—5 Things God Uses to Grow Your Faith
March 6—Fellowship Sunday
March 13—Forum Discussion
March 20—Palm Sunday Brunch
March 27—No Sunday School

Future Sermons:

February 7—Transfiguration Sunday
February 14—Luke 4:1-13—Yes and no
February 21—Philippians 3:17-4:1—Citizens of Heaven
February 28—John 17:20-26—That We May be One

Adult Ministry Luncheon

Thursday February 18th
12:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall
Speaker TBA

The cost for lunch is just $5.00.
Call the church office (765-289-4431) or email keena@firstpresmuncie.org by NOON Tuesday, February 16th to register.

Dee Dah Day

Women’s Book Study & Prayer Group
February 12th & 26th at 9 a.m. in the church lounge.
All are welcome!

OUR PRESBYTERIAN HERITAGE
THE REFORMATION IN IRELAND, SCOTLAND, AND ENGLAND
JUNE 13–23, 2016
HOSTED BY:
THE REV. J.D. GEORLETT

Brochures available on the information desk, or for more information contact
Great Destinations
(765) 284-6316
Juliawad@aol.com

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Muncie IN 47303
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Fax: 765-289-4486
www.firstpresmuncie.org
info@firstpresmuncie.org

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES:

8:30 a.m.—Contemporary Services (Sanctuary)
11:00 a.m.—International Service (Chapel)
11:00 a.m.—Traditional Service (Sanctuary)

The Rev. J. D. Georlett, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
revjd@firstpresmuncie.org

The Rev. Dr. Myungku Lee, Associate Pastor
ninebrights@hotmail.com

The Rev. Elinor Dale, Associate Pastor
elinor@firstpresmuncie.org

Cathy Alexander, Director of Mission & Circle Ministry
cathy@firstpresmuncie.org

Tracy Clinger, Director of Children’s Ministry
tracy@firstpresmuncie.org

Lisa Ulrich, Business Administrator
lisa@firstpresmuncie.org

Keena Bentley, Administrative Assistant
keena@firstpresmuncie.org
Church-wide Family Game Night!

As one church family, let’s gather for games, fellowship, and laughter together!

Saturday, February 27, 2016
6:30-8 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite game (or two) to play with others, a snack to share, and fun! All are invited! Families with children and youth, families with grown children, friends who are your family!