

MARCH 4, 2010

THE EPISTLE

First Presbyterian Church

Pastors

Richard Ramsey
Katherine Jackson

Director of Christian Education

Ann Bouchard

Director of Youth Ministries

Nathan See

Executive Staff Assistant

Chrissy Jones

Financial Secretary

Brenda Kinkade

Sexton

Richard Senor

Assistant Sexton

Stacy Senor

Organist

Michael Bancroft

Adult Choir Director

Harry Morrison

Adult Handbell Choir Director

Jane Piester

Director of Campus Ministries

Preston Turley

Clerk of Session

Carol Rhoades

Chair, Board of Trustees

Laura Erdel

Chair, Board of Deacons

Dawn Andres

What's Happening at FPC

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Greetings from our Pastor | page 2 |
| Greetings from our Associate Pastor | page 3 |
| Christian Education News | page 4 |
| Presbyterian Women | page 5 |
| You Should Know | page 6 –7 |
| February Session Notes | page 8 |
| Questionnaire for Women | page 9 |
| Retreat Registration | page 10 |
| Birthday List | page 11 |



Holy Week

Sunday, March 28 — Palm Sunday

Worship at 9:00 and 11:00

Palm Sunday parade at 10:15

Thursday, April 1 — Maundy Thursday

Worship at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 4 — Easter

Worship at 9:00 and 11:00

Church School classes at 10:00

Easter Egg Hunt at 10:20

From our Pastor, **Richard Ramsey**

Dear Friends,

Early March reflections and ramblings:

- Last Sunday, the class I teach began to reflect on the resurrection of Christ. Most of us, including me, love the visual image of the empty tomb. We have seen it on bulletin covers, in advertisements churches put in magazines and newspapers, on periodicals. The stone is rolled away and the sunlight streams from, or into, the empty tomb. I like the picture in my mind's eye. It captures Easter for many of us. But I am also re-reading Dr. Shirley Guthrie's, "Christian Doctrine." And the now retired professor of Systematic Theology from Columbia Seminary offers a timely reminder:

"Many people witnessed the crucifixion, but no one saw the resurrection. No one was there when it happened, and no attempt is made in the New Testament to describe it. The resurrection stories are not really accounts of the resurrection itself, but of the appearances of the risen Jesus. This ought to warn us against any speculation about what happened in the tomb, about how a dead man came to life again. Christian faith, strictly speaking, is not faith in the empty tomb or in the resurrection, but in the risen Christ."

- I watched as much of the United States-Canada gold medal hockey game as I could. I saw the first period and then the overtime. And March Madness is nearly here, when college basketball teams play their hearts out. As the announcers say, "They leave it all on the floor." Sometimes I wish life was more like sports. You know, you train, practice, work with teammates toward one goal, and then you compete or play as hard as you can for a designated period of time. You give it your all and you refuse to let anyone "out hustle or out work you." Then, win or lose, it is over. You've done your best and you go on to the next moment of unbelievable effort. But life isn't like that. There are times when we work our hardest and give our best and we know we have nothing else to give. But rarely, if ever, does one "game" truly end and another start. There aren't definite lines of start and finish. Things aren't always

concluded neatly. There aren't many post game interviews where you get to say, "We did our best. When is the next game?" I love watching highly competitive athletic events and I will thoroughly enjoy watching the NCAA basketball tournament. But I need the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in my life every day, because life isn't about neatly defined games that come and go. It is about the long haul and the Lord's faithfulness to his people...and my response to Him.

- I heard a startling statistic the other day. Over four million baby boomers are expected to live to 100 or more. What does that mean for health care, family dynamics, planning for retirement, and the church?
- Remember that Spring Break for this community is also Holy Week. On Palm Sunday we will have our two services, and join in the downtown Palm Sunday celebration beginning at 10:15 or so. On Maundy Thursday, we will have our evening service of shadows and communion. Then on Easter Day we will have two glorious celebrations of the resurrection of our Lord. Wherever you are during Spring Break, don't miss worship!
- Finally, let me simply say how glad I am to be one of the pastors in this congregation. It is good to be in a place where people are really working at being the family of our Lord. Our new efforts in mission, our faithful financial stewardship, our enthusiasm in worship, our revived efforts at welcoming all to this place, the renewed emphasis in campus ministry, the ongoing support of youth ministry, the pastoral care offered by so many to our shut ins, our hurting, our grieving and our members recovering from surgery...all make me glad to serve in this place and time. **MAY ALL OF YOU HAVE A JOYFUL AND WONDERFUL MARCH AND MAY WE ALL GATHER IN WORSHIP OF OUR LOVING GOD AS WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR EASTER DAY.**

See you in church.

Dick

The Great Emergence

Last spring when the Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow, Moderator of the PC(USA), visited with us he spoke of a book that was helpful in understanding some of the major changes going on in the church today. The book he referenced was Phyllis Tickle's book, **The Great Emergence**. Following up on that conversation I read the book and found it very interesting. I just re-read the book preparing to lead a discussion on current changes in the church for the Synod of Mid America meeting later this week and a couple of statements stood out for me more so than they did a year ago.

"Every 500 years or so, the Church holds a rummage sale." This is the image Tickle references when she speaks about the groundswell of change that the Church is beginning to see across the world. A rummage sale is an event when people begin to sort through the items they have collected over time, deciding what is essential and necessary and holding on to those items while discarding that which is no longer of use. It may sound rather frightening for the Church to discard anything but it has happened before. Jesus certainly changed the face of faith traditions. In the 5th and 6th century Constantine and Gregory the Great once again changed the course of religious history. Around 1000 A.D. there was the Great Schism between the Eastern and Western Church. In the 16th century came the Great Reformation. Now we are beginning to take notice of what is being termed in the Church, the Great Emergence. Although each shift in faith perspective came with a great upheaval and cost, we can find comfort that at no time was Christianity destroyed. Rather in each period, Christianity spread and became stronger.

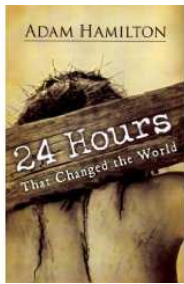
The changes that are happening in the Church didn't just start in the past decade or so. The changes began over a century ago, within the church and within the culture. *Sola Scriptura*, scripture alone, was the hallmark for the Great Reformation. The basis of authority for the Christian was to be found in Scripture. For this to really become a foundational statement, literacy had to be universal. With the printing press, this change took place and the church was bound to the print media and to the rational and scientific thought that came out of the Enlightenment. To be a person of faith, one gave intellectual assent to particular beliefs found in Scripture. This bedrock of faith shook during the Civil War. People read the same

Scriptures and yet found different beliefs regarding slavery. Darwin's work with evolution, women's struggle for equal rights, divorce, ordination of women and gay rights all forced people of faith to look at the Scriptures in different ways and what once seemed to be very black and white now appeared to be cast in shades of gray. Add to these changes major shifts within the traditional family, the change (in the US) from a rural to an urban culture, the move from Enlightenment thought process to post modernity, the rise of growth of the charismatic churches, a cry for more participatory worship styles, and the shift from the print media to the broadcast media to the internet, it is no wonder the Church is in such a time of change.

The big question, as Tickle points out, is what will be the basis of authority in this changing faith dynamic. For many people authority is no longer drawn simply from Scripture. The current dynamic in answering the question of authority is that it is found both in Scripture and in the community. The positive effect of this is that faith is then drawn both from thinking and living. It moves from giving intellectual assent to certain beliefs to faith becoming a way of life. In many ways this takes us back to the time before Constantine in the 4th century. Before Constantine, the early church drew from Judaism's theology which was holistic, combining heart, soul, body and mind. After Constantine, Christianity became more Hellenized and dualistic. Salvation became more about a ticket to paradise someday in the future rather than living out God's will on this earth. The Great Emergence now seems to be returning to those very early days of trying to understand what it means to be human in light of the *imago dei*, or the image of God.

It remains to be seen what will come out of this time of change. One thing is certain. The Emerging Church will give voice to a rich diversity of voices coming from all tribes and nations of the earth through the connection of the World Wide Web. We have the opportunity to be, as Jesus said, his "witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

I am grateful to authors like Phyllis Tickle who give perspective to the changing face of the church and I am excited about the possibilities open for Christian witness today. If you are interested in an ongoing conversation about faith and change I would love to begin a discussion.



**Lenten Supper and Study Series
Continues on
Wednesday Evenings in
March**

Please join us on Wednesdays, March 10, 17, 24, and 31, for supper and discussion about the events which took place during the last day of Jesus' life. Dinner is served at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. The cost is only \$3.00 per person/\$12.00 family maximum, and children under the age of 5 eat free. Don't worry if you can't come every week; each week's lesson stands on its own.

We are offering a special children's study following the meal for elementary age kids and childcare for younger children. Please make your reservation for the meal by calling or emailing the church office by Tuesday noon each week.

**Lighthouse Painting Day
Saturday, March 13—Starting at 8:00 a.m.**

Thanks to the generous donations of our church family, we are now ready to start painting the Lighthouse. We have enough money to purchase the paint and supplies we need, and we already have some volunteers signed up to help us paint.

The Lighthouse is a great big space, so we can always use more helpers. Put on those old paint clothes and come to church on March 13. There are jobs big and small for everyone. Please call Ann Bouchard at the church office if you have any questions.



P. S. We'll provide coffee, juice, bagels and pastries.

Our Pennies for Paint collection will continue as we work toward our goal of getting new flooring for the Lighthouse. Paint cans are on the Welcome Center kiosk and on a table in the narthex. Thank you for your contributions.

Women of First Presbyterian, mark your calendars for our

2010 Women's Retreat Weekend

**"Praying in Color:
Drawing a New Path to God"**

Friday evening, April 17—6:00-9:00 p.m.

Saturday day, April 18—8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

\$25.00 per person (includes Friday evening hors d'oeuvres and dinner, Saturday breakfast and lunch and all supplies for the event.)

Do you—
start to pray, then fall asleep?
run out of words, but the prayer doesn't feel finished?
feel antsy and fidgety when you try to be still and pray?
want to like praying, but it just feels like another chore?
start to pray but realize that you're thinking about bills you have to pay or your child's upcoming soccer game or the presentation you have to give at work?
worry because you can't seem to find the right words?

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, then come explore *Praying in Color* with us. Our weekend activities (besides eating!) will include lots of fun, **color-full** activities in addition to our more serious study and prayer time. And, we'll get you home early enough on Saturday afternoon so that you can rest up and come back for Trivia Night to support our youth and their summer trips.

Registration forms will be mailed soon to all FPC women. Please contact Ann Bouchard if you have any questions.

Wednesday Night Activities

Would you enjoy a monthly book club? How about a movie night? Do you have an idea for a small group or study you'd like to do? Would you be willing to assist with programming for kids? All of these are possibilities (and needs) as we move into our new Wednesday programming in April. Let us hear from you with your ideas.



New Blog

This is for **all women of First Presbyterian Church**. You don't have to be in a PW "circle" or "group" to be a Presbyterian Woman. We invite you to share on this blog or check in occasionally to see what's going on in the lives of other women here at FPC. This is a place to share thoughts, ideas, recipes, prayers, whatever you want to share!

Go to <http://chatpw.blogspot.com/>

Women's Lunch Group

Join us for lunch and fellowship as we meet monthly at various restaurants in town and around the area.

Everyone is invited—and we'd be happy to give you a ride! Please call Kathleen Brown at 445-7498 if you would like to attend and if you need a ride.

March 11—Coley's (15 S. 6th Street)

Mark your Calendars

Annual Spring Luncheon

Sunday, May 2 at noon in the Social Hall
Watch for more information!

Presbyterian Women's *West Side Girls* are continuing to collect gently used purses and new toiletries to give to the women leaving The Shelter and McCambridge Center. There is a collection box in the Welcome Center for your donations. Thank you for your support.



PW Circle Information:

Circle 1

Meets the third Friday of each month at noon in the Chez

Next meeting will be March 19; contacts are Mona Ajans at 875-1694 or Terry Lodwick at 446-4176

Moderator: Terry Lodwick

Circle 2

Meets the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Next meeting will be March 15; contact is Alisa

Watkins at 474-3287

Circle 3

Meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Next meeting will be April 1

Contacts are Dorothy Beckett at 445-3472 or Marty Cutler at 445-1334

Circle 4

Meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the Chez

Next meeting will be March 23

contact is Mary McCoy at 443-2722

Circle 5

Meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Social Hall at 9:30 a.m.

Next meeting will be March 9; contacts are Carla Conley at 442-8192 or Pat Douty at 446-1736.

Moderator: Anita Heidbrink

Circle 7

Meets the second Monday at Lenoir in the Community Center at 3:00 p.m.

Next meeting will be March 8; contact is Lola Morgan at 441-0090

Crafty Coffee

Meets the second Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Kay Metcalf

The next meeting will be March 13.

West Side Girls

Meets the 4th Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Chrissy Jones (446-1528)

Next meeting will be March 22.

You Should Know



Want to get involved with Campus Ministry? The Vine is hosting a welcome event this summer for prospective students called Get

Planted. We will need people to host students and possibly their parents in their homes for one night. For more information, please contact Preston at 573.442.1164 or prestont@fpccolumbia.org.



While dining out, why not satisfy your stomach and fulfill your need to give something back to the community? eScrip Dining by Rewards Network rewards up to 3 groups of your choice when you dine at any of the thousands of restaurants, bars and clubs in our program.

Visit eScrip.com and select up to 3 groups to which you'd like to contribute. Then register your debit and credit cards. Your cards will never be charged by eScrip Dining. After you've joined, dine out at a restaurant on our program. At the end of each month, the group(s) you've chosen will receive up to 5% of what you've spent on your dining bill.

There are no additional cards to carry, coupons to print or numbers to remember.

When you sign up, your chosen group(s) will receive 2.5% of what you spend at every restaurant on our program. You can also double what you contribute to a total of 5% by filling out the post-dine survey that is sent in your benefit confirmation email. (A benefit confirmation email is an email that's sent to you shortly after each time you dine. It tells you how much you earned when you dined.)

Schnucks eScrip Customer Card

Pick up a Schnucks eScrip Customer Card at the store or from the church office. Present the card every time you shop and Schnucks contributes a percentage of your monthly purchase amount to FPC (or the organization of your choice).

Chili Cook-off March 7 - this Sunday tasting begins at 5:30 p.m. In the Social Hall

Do you have a great Chili recipe?
If so, bring your pot of chili to be judged.

Do you like to eat great chili and support a good cause? If so, plan to bring the entire family (and some money) to this event. You can sample all of the great chili recipes and some other good food and then donate money to your favorite ... or favorites .. chili. All of the donations will go to the Pennies for Paint Lighthouse project. Hope to see you there! The winner will receive a gift certificate to Bleu Restaurant - compliments of Travis Tucker!

Saturday Café

We are in need of host groups for the last 3 Saturdays in March. We have volunteer servers and bakers to take care of each week. The need will be for volunteers for the basics: 3 dozen eggs, gallon of juice, 1/2 gallon of milk, fruit, pound of coffee, and 12 cups of applesauce.

If you or your committee would be interested, please contact the church office or Kay Metcalf.

Columbia Interfaith Council's 2010 Lenten Breakfast Schedule

- Breakfast begins at 7:00 a.m. and ends at 8:00 a.m. A donation of \$1.00 is expected from those attending and each person is encouraged to bring non-perishable food for the Russell Chapel CME Food Pantry.

March 10 First Baptist Church - 1112 E. Broadway

**March 17 First Presbyterian Church -
16 Hitt Street**

March 24 Second Missionary Baptist Church -
407 E. Broadway

March 31 Missouri United Methodist Church -
209 South 9th

April 2 Good Friday Service -12 noon -
Russell Chapel CME Church - 108 E. Ash

You Should Know more....

Collegiate Choir Concert

March 12 at 7:30 p.m.
In the Sanctaury

The Collegiate Choir from Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Ill., will present a concert in our sanctuary on Friday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m. This concert is one of eight appearances the choir will make during its 2010 spring concert tour. The tour itinerary includes performances in Columbia, MO, Tulsa, OK, Dallas, TX, Houston, TX, New Orleans, LA, Tuscaloosa, AL, Memphis, TN, and St. Louis, MO. The 49-voice choir is composed of student musicians representing the School of Music and other areas of the University, and is dedicated to the performance of the finest sacred and secular choral music of the past five centuries. If you would be willing to provide a place to stay for one of the students on Friday night, please contact the church office.

Mark Your Calendars! Trivia Night - April 17

Come support our summer youth trips to Triennium, Mexico, and Louisville by testing your knowledge against the questions concocted by our resident quiz master, Hank Landry. More information about prices and table reservations will come soon, so watch your bulletins and newsletters.

PDA Response to the Earthquake in Chile

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has committed \$25,000 so far to its mission partners, Church World Service and the Lutheran World Federation for relief efforts in Chile. These two agencies are conducting a damage assessment and will report back to PDA in the next few days. This initial \$25,000 will come from the One Great Hour of Sharing Funds which is our special Lenten mission offering. As of Monday, March 1, the PC(USA) still was waiting for word from its mission partners. We have relationships with several Presbyterian churches and with a seminary in Chile but currently have no mission personnel stationed in the country. PDA is working on making a designated account for donations to Chile. More information on how you can contribute to the relief efforts will be forthcoming or you can check the website www.pcusa.org.

Peanut Butter and kids go together like...

Well, bread and butter! Peanut butter is a great source of protein too, which is why the Central Missouri Food Bank puts it in their Buddy Packs. Each week the Central Missouri Food Bank serves more than 3,800 children and the need continues to grow. **Their goal is to receive 10,000 jars of donated peanut butter by the end of April.** If you would like to donate, a collection barrel is in the Welcome Center. Thank you for your support.

Current Officers of FPC

| Class of 2010 | Class of 2011 | Class of 2012 |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Deacons | | |
| Dawn Andres | Scott Buchanan | Larry Berres |
| Tom Bell | Sarah Giessmann | Jim Cogswell |
| Anne Braisted | Sandy Gunn | Carla Conley |
| Kim Fennewald | Marcia Lynn | Laurie Everett |
| Vi Powell | Betty Moss | Mary Hoskins |
| Marty Whitehead | Alisa Watkins | Christopher 't Hoen |
| Jim Wood | Bob Weis | Barak White |

Trustees

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Wayne McCoy | Elaine Blodgett | Keith Cramer |
| Ellen McQuie | Laura Erdel | Ginger Gillmore |
| Sandy Murray | Brian Rysdam | Nancy Thomas |
| Phil Prather | Travis Tucker | Herb Willbrand |

Elders

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Betty Cramer | Mona Ajans | Tom Baumgardner |
| Larry Dessem | Gary Duncan | Elizabeth Brixey |
| Jane Ledwin | Sue Faerber | Jim French |
| Michael McCrary | Betsy Garrett | Christi Hopper |
| Dale Metcalf | John Montgomery | Mack Jones |
| Becky Walker | Dave Zanone | Steve Kopcha |

Session Notes

February 2010 Stated Meeting

The meeting was opened with a devotional and prayer lead by elder Betsy Garrett.

The moderator welcomed two members of the Confirmation class who were attending as part of their preparation for church membership: Hunter Crawford and Rebecca Hopper.

The treasurer, Clark Marks, presented the financial report:

| | Month | YTD | % of Budget |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Income | \$131,572.53 | \$131,572.53 | 16.73% |
| Expenses | \$57,098.75 | \$57,098.75 | 7.32% |
| Excess | \$74,473.78 | \$74,473.78 | |

Chair of the Trustees, Laura Erdel, brought the following recommendation from the Trustees to Session: That \$6,153.00 in undesignated memorials be applied to reduce the debt on the new renovations. The motion was made, seconded and approved. Laura Erdel also brought the following recommendation from Trustees: That First Presbyterian Church join the Community Improvement District (CID) and that Laura Erdel be authorized to sign the petition representing FPC. Allan Moore spoke to the issue and it was passed.

Kathie Jackson and Richard Ramsey spoke to the ongoing homework being done evaluating the possibility of beginning a pre-school. Travis Tucker, Stacy Peters, Danielle Turley, Sharen Garrett, Kathie Jackson, Ann Bouchard, Cindy Brodhacker, and Nathan See are studying the issues and possibilities.

Clark Marks addressed session about the need to address church membership, retention of members, and worship attendance. Clark and four or five others would like to form an "Ambassadors" team whose calling would be showing hospitality and warmly welcoming all who come to First Presbyterian Church for any reason and for any class/function/gathering. The purpose of the Ambassadors would be to welcome all to our church and create in our church family a culture of hospitality and a culture of church growth, spiritual and numerical.

The session received a thank you note for Church Development Corporation for our support of their ministries. The session also approved John Montgomery to represent us at a called meeting of Missouri Union Presbytery, February 23, at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Elder Betsy Garrett presented plans for the Wednesday evening dinners, programs, and committee meetings beginning April 7. Committees will be asked to meet either the first or third Wednesday of the month.

Elder John Montgomery reported the dates for the summer Mission trip to Mexico, June 12-19. About 18 are going including youth. The Saturday morning Café, where we welcome and feed some of our Columbia residents, is quite successful.

The Christian Education Committee reminded session about the Lenten Ash Wednesday service and Agape meal, and the subsequent study series each Wednesday evening during Lent: *24 Hours That Changed the World*.

Ann Bouchard also announced that VBS will be July 25-29, 2010.

The Fellowship Committee addressed the Annual Meeting; the chili cook off scheduled for March 7 at 5:30 p.m., raising money for the Lighthouse Pennies for Paint project; and presented its members for 2010: Sue Faerber (co-chair), Kim Moore (co-chair), Mary McCoy, Marty Whitehead, Diana and Fred Hawthorne, Terry Ann Lodwick, Karen Talbot, Tom and Nancy Thomas, Alice Lendt, Linda Griffith, Joy Rushing, Molly Means, Jane Ellen Ashley, and Brenda Zanone.

The Worship Committee secured servers for upcoming communion services and presented its committee membership for 2010: Bill Hatfield, Elaine Blodgett, Lora Lee Hensel, Richard Baumann, Gene Powell, Wayne McCoy, Jim French, Preston Turley, Mona Ajans, Elizabeth Brixey, and Dale Metcalf.

The Reverend Kathie Jackson closed the meeting with prayer following a sharing of joys and concerns. The session remembered Dorothy Benson on the death of her husband, Robert.

Presbyterian Women—First Presbyterian Church

As a woman and a member of FPC, please take a moment to fill out this questionnaire to help Presbyterian Women plan for next year.

Presbyterian Women is an inclusive group of women of all ages and talents, who join together to serve the church anyway we can, to study and grow spiritually, and to reach out to others.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

I prefer to be contacted by: Telephone Email

- I would like more information about Presbyterian Women and meetings/activities
- I would like to join Presbyterian Women, but not join a circle or group at this time. I am willing to help at events.
- I would like to join a circle or group
- I would prefer to meet : morning afternoon evening
- I need child/elder care to participate
- I need transportation
- I know about Presbyterian Women but am not involved because:
- I don't know anyone Schedule conflict Other (Please specify) _____
- If Presbyterian Women offered _____, I might be more interested.
- I already belong to a Presbyterian Women Group (please specify) _____
- I would like to volunteer my time to mission projects
- I would like to help with strategic long range planning
- I play an instrument (please specify) _____
- I can help with: Fall Program Winter Program Spring Program
- I would be willing to serve as a circle/group leader
- I would be willing to serve as an officer for the 2011-2012 term:
- Historian Mission Coordinator Treasurer Secretary Moderator



Please mail this evaluation to the church office, place it in the offering plate on Sunday morning, or return it to your circle leader.
Thank you for your time and may God bless you every day.



Praying *in* Color

Drawing a New Path to God
2010 Women's Retreat
April 16 ~ 6:00-9:00 p.m.
April 17—8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Mathematics instructor, dancer, and spouse of an Episcopal priest, author Sybil Macbeth writes in her book *Praying in Color*: “. . . in spite of artistic deficiencies, I have always loved color. The stadium seating of the **48 crayons in the Crayola Box**, the sweet smell of paper and wax, and the feel of the thin cylinders rolling around in my hand were an early experience of worship. . . . God has taken one of my passions—color; combined it with one of my inadequacies—drawing; added it to my antsy and improvisational personality; and given me a new way to pray.”

At this year's Women's Retreat, we'll use paper, crayons, markers, and colored pencils to explore a new form of prayer. ***No artistic ability is required!*** We'll also have time to do a variety of creative, ***color-full***, activities, such as beading, weaving, paper crafts and more.

The cost for the retreat is just \$25.00 per person and includes hors d'oeuvres and a catered, Friday evening meal, Saturday breakfast and lunch, and all supplies.

Please use the form below to register. Payment is appreciated with your registration.

Praying *in* Color

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Childcare will be available on Friday evening. Please indicate here if needed: _____

Please enclose your payment of \$25.00 with your registration. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church (Women's Retreat on memo line)

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Susan Decker, Tom Thomas, Betty Moss, Bob Weis, and Sally Page

Our Christian Sympathy to:

The family of our member, Beryl Bierschwal, who passed away on February 19.
Joe Weston and his family for the recent loss of Joe's aunt.

Congratulations to:

Kristy & Brian Rysdam—who adopted twins on February 4.
Lisa & Aaron Montgomery—who had their first baby on February 22.

Thank you:

Thanks to all who sent cards, notes, flowers, and visited me in the hospital after my recent surgery. They were very much appreciated. Thanks also to Dick and Kathy, and our deacon, Jim Woods, for their visits.

Erma and I also want to say thank you for all the cards we received for our 50th wedding anniversary.

Jim Brown

Thank you:

To all of the wonderful friends for all of the food and cards. And to the Caring Chefs and many visitors that cheered me up during my convalesces. I am truly grateful for you all.

Pat Fox

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated at both worship services this Sunday.

Attention First Presbyterian men!

You are invited to breakfast together at B&B Bagels (on Nifong) on Tuesday mornings. Come at 6:30 a.m., or anytime after, and stay as long as you like. There is no planned agenda. This is just a time for conversation and fun. If you have any questions, ask Chris Bouchard.

@First

If you would like to receive our E-Newsletter, @First, please fill out a red postcard and drop it in the offering plate, send us an email at office@fpccolumbia.org, or sign up at our website, www.fpccolumbia.org. We can't send it to you without your permission; and we promise not to use your email for any other purpose or give it to anyone.

Sunday sermons are available on CD. Please call the church office or your deacon. You may also listen to sermons on our website at www.fpccolumbia.org.

IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

March

- 13 Phyllis Boillot
Jerry Thompson
Ellen McQuie
- 14 Pauline Ramsey
Marcia Lynn
- 17 Dorothy Rahmeyer
- 18 Jeanetta Savage
- 19 Meg Gray
- 20 Mikaela Smith
- 21 Lynn Montgomery
- 22 Elizabeth Hammond
- 23 Eddie Edwards
- 24 Anita Heidbrink
Pat Fox
- 25 Sheri Edwards
Kaitlyn Rezentes
- 26 Lynn Willbrand
- 27 Alice Brownlee
Mary Lu Parks
Shelley Botts
- 28 Bonnie Mullen
Jim Kessel
- 29 Carol French
- 30 Debbie Gerhardt
Katherine Presley

April

- 1 Jim Hancock
Diane Hawthorne
Ken McMahan
- 3 Henry Wright
- 4 Hunter Crawford
- 5 Libby Pekkala
Elizabeth Brixey
Eliane Botts
- 6 Petey Botts
Jess Newkirk
- 7 Sharon Duncan
- 8 Jeff Jones
Tommy Rezentes
Georgia Lou Tucker
- 9 Beth Dessem
Mary McCoy
Jennifer Hanks
- 10 Anne Edgington



16 Hitt Street
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Return Service Requested

Sunday Worship
9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Church School classes at 10:00 a.m.

Church office hours:
8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
(Monday - Friday)

Church phone numbers:
Office: (573) 442-1164
Fax: (573) 442-7161

E-mail: office@fpccolumbia.org
Web site: www.fpccolumbia.org

The next Epistle will be mailed on April 1, 2010
The deadline for articles and information is Friday, March 26.