

# *1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church of Greenfield, Indiana*



## *November 2011*

### **From The Pastor:**

Did you know that Advent starts this year on November 27<sup>th</sup>? Although we have seen Christmas decorations in the stores for several weeks already, Advent, the time of preparation for Christmas Day doesn't even begin until the end of November! Our Castleton Marsh store even has a stand-alone display of Christmas wrapping paper right in front of the meat counter. (Speaking of Christmas, we will hold off and not have "Breakfast With Santa" until December! Set aside the morning of December 4<sup>th</sup> for a pancake breakfast and special visit with Santa for all the kids.)

On the 27<sup>th</sup>, we will have our traditional "Hangin' Of The Greens" service to decorate the sanctuary for the holiday season. This service highlights many of the Advent/Christmas traditions, features Advent (and maybe some Christmas) music, and brings a message of hope and promise from God.

We also will be celebrating Thanksgiving again, of course, in November. This year on the twenty-fourth. This is a day set aside in our country to give thanks to God for all the bountiful blessings we have received.

November also marks our first Chili Days of the year on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Come for fellowship. Come to eat! Come to help. Hope to see everybody involved one way or another on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

Daylight Savings Time finally ends on Sunday morning, November 6. That means it is time to change your smoke detector batteries and turn your clock back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night. If you forget, when you arrive at church on Sunday morning at 10:20 on your watch, we'll still be in the basement in our Sunday School class. Come join us if this happens!

We will have our annual Thanksgiving fellowship lunch after church on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

This is a wonderful time for us as a church to offer thanks to God, share a wonderful meal, and spend time in Christian fellowship.

The Christmas season mission programs are starting soon. June Paterson gives us highlights of this year's events in our Newsletter this month.

Thanks to all who made our Riley Day's a success. It truly was an all-hands effort. Read Susan's letter of thanks to all.

Dennis Whitson highlights our financial status and says a bit about Stewardship and supporting our church.

As we enter the Advent season later this month, and begin a new church lectionary year, we can look back on this year and see that this has been a difficult year for our First Presbyterian family. We have lost Jim and Wauneta Samuels, Everett and Helen McCauley, Mary Johns, and Mac McCleerey. Wonderful Christians and certainly some of God's special servants and people who have left First Presbyterian Church with wonderful memories. Our prayers continue to go out to their families.

See you in church,

**Pastor John**

### **LETTER FROM THE ELDER OF THE MONTH – Mark Gunnoe**

Once again fall has presented a beautiful season for us. The trees are very colorful, and the weather is changing daily. The farmers are trying to get the corn and beans in, as are the wildlife (they are just going nuts), in preparation for a long beautiful winter wonderland. Dennis Whitson has the ever demanding task of getting us into financial shape for the coming year, by

gathering pledges (and hopefully he won't go nuts).

It is a time to remember something that we read in bible study tonight from Proverbs 19 verse 21. "Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." God is in control and he has made so many things available for us to enjoy, and to share with each other, that sometimes it's hard to find God in our thoughts and lives.

I feel like we have a wonderful bunch of Christian minds and hearts in our congregation and when we get together to worship God or just enjoy one another's company it is a worthwhile event. I heard the other day, on a Christian radio station, in some European countries that they don't take time for God or church anymore. I know that you hear a lot from our media today, but in some ways I can see our society moving in that direction too.

Remember when hardly anything was open on Sunday. I have to admit that it seems strange to me to see a McDonald's closed on Christmas Day. With all of our technology you can see that we don't have as much personal contact as in the past. People don't take the time to be with their friends. We have friends on Facebook or email, etc., but some folks don't take the time to look into their friends' eyes and see how glad they are to see them.

I guess I just wanted to remind you that as we go into the Holiday Season that we love so much, that God will be there with us all of the time and your friends at our church will be at your service.

Try to keep God and Jesus on your mind and you will be a more beautiful, loving, caring person in his eyes and in those of everyone you come in contact with at this time we celebrate our faith

Mark Gunnoe,  
For your session.

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**ATTENTION ALL**  
**SESSION MEMBERS**

The November Session meeting is  
Thursday, November at 7 p.m.



## Char's

Thanksgiving is a time of year when we all sing "Now Thank We All Our God" and "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart." We all have many things to be thankful for such as: freedom to worship, shelter, food, warmth, a wonderful church family, and many others. I'm sure each of you can think of your own personal blessings you have received this past year. As we prayerfully pause to thank God for our own blessings, let us remember those less fortunate than ourselves. When we bless others, we too are blessed!

**T- TAKE** time to help someone in need everyday.

**H- HELP** a hungry family have a "Thanksgiving Dinner" by providing all the "stuffings."

**A-ANGEL** be an angel in disguise. Lift the spirit of someone who is struggling financially anonymously mail them 5 or 10 dollars in a nice card.

**N- NEVER** take for granted the blessings God sends your way.

**K- KINDNESS** to others is always a blessing.

**S- STRIVE** to be a blessing to someone each day.

**G- GIVE** thanks with a grateful heart.

**I-INSPIRE** positive feelings in others by sharing words of encouragement and praise.

**V- VISIT** someone who is sick or lonely.

**I-INVITE** a friend to come along with you to church.

**N- NOW** is the time! Don't miss your opportunity to be a blessing to someone!

**G- GOD** is our greatest blessing of all!

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving.

As always, keep a song in your heart. Char



## ***GREETERS FOR NOVEMBER – no one signed up***

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Elder on Call for November  
Mark Gunnoe – 313-5580

### **ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING**

	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Offering</b>
<b>October 2</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>\$ 1,128.29</b>
<b>October 9</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>\$ 1,355.00</b>
<b>October 16</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>\$ 294.00</b>
<b>October 23</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>\$ 1,448.50</b>
<b>October 30</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>\$ 530.00</b>
<b>Total offering</b>		<b>\$ 4,755.79</b>

**In order to meet our budget, our monthly offering needs to be a bit over \$ 7,500.**

### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

#### **November Birthdays**

11/02	June Caldwell	11/19	Ben Hersberger
11/04	Richard Terheide	11/21	Verla Davis
11/06	Larry Circle	11/21	Justice Warner
11/10	Annette Trinkle	11/25	Robyn Gunnoe
11/12	Frank Willard	11/29	Sheila Hersberger
11/19	Pat Paulson		

#### **November Anniversaries**

**No November anniversaries**

### **MOMENT FOR MISSIONS**

**The busiest part of our “Mission Year” is now clearly on the horizon.**

Dennis Smith is once again rounding up his “Santas” for the Salvation Army Bell Ringing! Mark your calendars for November 26<sup>th</sup> at Krogers! The income generated from this program, comes back into our own area. (Ask anyone who volunteers at LOVE I.N.C.)

The Westminster Christmas Baskets’ Box will be in the Selman Room in November. Our project is “**UNDERWEAR**”, with the emphasis on the larger sizes! Our pre-teens, and teens seem to be growing!! For the boys, we have been asked to supply **BOXER SHORTS**, rather than briefs,

The following month, we will be working on the Mental Health Christmas boxes. As soon as we receive the list, we will post it above the box in the Selman Room.

Don’t forget about our year-round projects....The **food pantry box, and the H20 box.**

The Food Pantry has a really neat program for the kids. (12 yrs & under). They have “**Birthday Bags**”! They keep track of birthdays on the computer. Of course they rely on the donors to put these together. Here is the recipe....start with a birthday bag, or solid color bag – big enough to hold a cake mix – and that is the first thing to go in the bag. Then add, frosting, candles, brightly - colored paper plates and napkins! Add a small toy (optional) and voila...a birthday bag! Just put it in the Food Pantry box along with your food donations.

The H20 box supports the ministry of the Real Life Church here in Greenfield, to supply those personal products not included in food pantry donations...shampoos, soap, toilet paper, Kleenex and paper towels. I personally, am blown away when I look at the cost of diapers, and other baby products!

Whew! That’s a lot of loving and giving!! Thank you for your support of all our missions and ministries.

June Paterson

## **MENS’ BREAKFAST**

Men’s breakfast will be held on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 8am. Dennis Smith will be providing food and Dennis Whitson has devotions. All men are welcome.

# Riley Festival



Wow! Another super weekend for the Riley Festival. Our Chicken and Dumplin' event saw us providing meals to approximately 200 people.

It is amazing how smoothly the workers make the day seem from my view from the kitchen. The dessert room was efficiently run by Frank and Julie Chandler, Kat Harper and Ralph Scroggin; the drinks were kept at top shape by Sandy Aspy; the serving line for walk-ins was manned by Julie Chandler, Myrtle Bray and June Caldwell while Pat Paulson and Kat Harper kept the deliveries going. June Paterson served as cashier with help from Jennie Aspy.

Katherine Harper and I cooked chicken and dumplings and Katherine outdid herself in keeping the kitchen clean.

Of course there was the cleaning of the tables, restocking food, cleaning trays, emptying the trash, mopping the floor, etc. that go on by everyone who has a moment to spare.

In addition to the above, there are those church members who deboned chicken and rolled dumplings and provided desserts too! Not to forget to mention Roby Hott, who mopped up before we left.

A special worker, Spencer Spielman, was that "second pair of hands" that we all needed. He filled in cleaning, doing the laundry, filling salt shakers, breaking dumplings, drying towels and any other job he was asked to do. What a blessing he is to our church.

Such a super group of people to work with for the glory of God!

We took in \$1315.00 and after expenses cleared \$755.00.

Respectfully submitted: Susan Hott

Jill Lyon wants to thank all the energetic delivery people who delivered over 100 lunches and dinners to hungry vendors. This is the best year we have had in many years and all your hard work is sincerely appreciated.

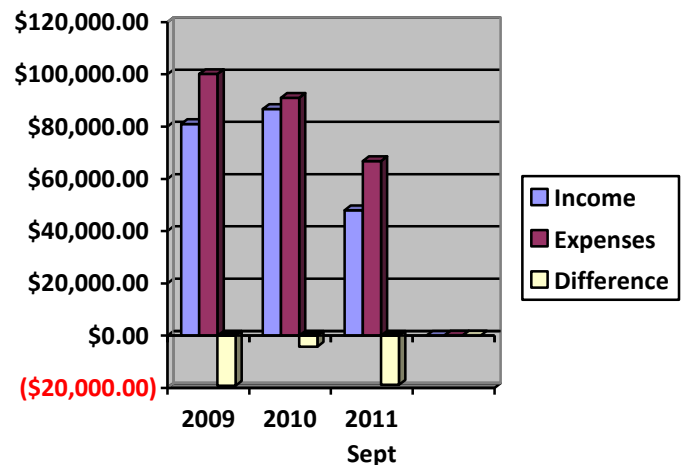
As they say in the barnyard, Cluck, Cluck 'til next year!

## FINANCIAL NEWS

We are going to start having a status of the finances of the church in the newsletter each month. In anticipation of that, the following charts are provided to show the final tally from 2009 and 2010 as well as the status as of the end of August of 2011. In addition we have a chart that shows how monthly income compares to our monthly needs at First Pres.

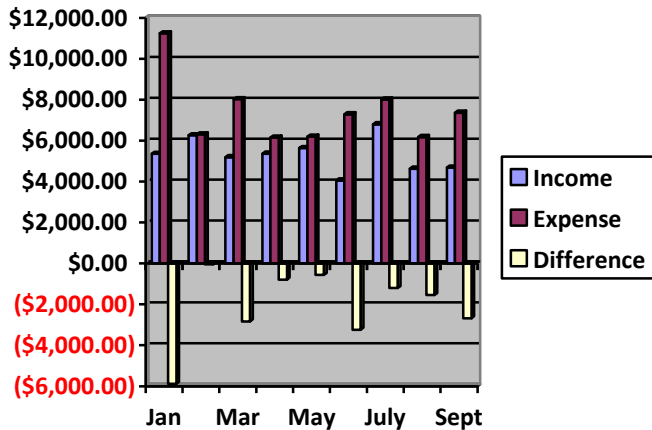
The blue bars (1<sup>st</sup> bar) is income, the red bars (2<sup>nd</sup> bar) is expense and the white bars (3<sup>rd</sup> bar) is the difference between the two.

The first chart is the totals for 2009, 2010 and as of the end of 2011 August



In 2009 our income for the year was \$80,976.00 and the expenses ran \$95,372 for a deficit of \$14,396. In 2010 our income for the year was \$86,745 and our expenses were \$90,981 for a deficit of \$4,236. As of the end of September 2011 our income is \$48,015 and our expenses are \$66,789 for a deficit of \$18,774.

The second chart shows monthly income and expenses and has the same color code.



After this month the newsletter will contain a status report for the month comparing income vs expenses and a comparison for the year to date.

### STEWARDSHIP - 2012 Pledging

We mailed 50 stewardship letters and have received 16 pledges totaling \$35,600 so far. The church expenses run a little over \$90,000 annually, so more pledges are needed. If you have not yet returned your pledge please send it in soon. We will be mailing out follow up letters on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

### ADVENT WORSHIP

**Advent begins on Sunday, November 27 this year, and we will celebrate the beginning of Advent with our traditional "Hangin' Of The Greens" worship service. This is always a special service and a wonderful way to help us remember that the upcoming holiday season is about much more than just card and presents and Santa Claus. Advent is a time of preparation; a time to prepare our hearts and minds once again for the arrival of the Christ Child.**

### SOME SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Former member Virginia Sutton is celebrating her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 11. Her children, Amy, John and Ann have asked for a shower of birthday cards. If you send one, also let Virginia know how you are connected to her. Cards should be mailed to:

Virginia Sutton  
 c/o Amy Kellerstrass  
 P.O. Box 7395  
 Springfield, IL 62791

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### Grief Support Group

St. James Lutheran Church will be starting a grief support group on November 3 at the church on south State Street. This is a 13 week biblical study to help those who may be grieving the loss of a loved one. Please call Barb Gray at 317-517-9402 for additional information.

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### A Thank You Received

Dear Church,  
 Thank you so much for all you have done for dad and mom since they have been here. You are a wonderful loving, caring group that truly exemplifies Christ in your daily walk.

We are grateful for the meals, afghans, being with us during this sad time for us. We know that dad and mom and together again and in the very presence of our Lord. You have a very special place in our hearts. Blessings to you all.

Everett A. McCauley and family  
 Ellen Harvey and family.

## **CHRISTMAS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED**

Please let others know about this program that provides special Christmas assistance to families who are in need.

UNITED CHRISTMAS SERVICE DEADLINE IS  
NOVEMBER 14TH

FAMILIES WHO NEED ASSISTANCE CAN BE  
REFERRED BY WIC AND  
ALL HANCOCK  
COUNTY SCHOOLS,(THROUGH THE SCHOOL  
COUNSELORS).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIRES THAT THE CHILDREN  
ARE PART OF THE  
FREE LUNCH, OR  
REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM.

Contact the United Way of Central Indiana, Hancock  
County office at  
317.467.2346  
for additional information

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## **Greater Greenfield Community Thanksgiving Service & Choral Festival**

November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – 6:00 pm  
Park Chapel Christian Church  
Worship Center

Our choir will participate both in an individual  
anthem and in the mass choir.

Choir members need to be to at the church at  
3:30 for the mass choir rehearsal. Our  
individual practice will be  
between 4:00 and 4:45, with  
choir dinner  
(\$ 5.00 donation) at 4:45.

## **Some Riley Days Pictures**



# November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 <b>8am</b> <b>Men's Breakfast</b> Food – Dennis S Devotions – Dennis W
<b>COMMUNION</b> 6  9:15 Adult S.S. 10:30 Worship	7  4-9pm Tri Kappa	8  9:30 a.m. Bible Study 5:30-7pm GS Mtg	9  <b>CHILI DAY!</b>  4pm Pray w/Pastor 5:30pm Bible Study 5 pm Youth Group 7 pm Choir Practice	10  <b>Session Meeting 7 PM</b>	11	12
13  <b>Thanksgiving Dinner for all</b>  9:15 Adult S.S. 10:30 Worship	14  5:30 – 8:00pm GS prep and meeting	15  9:30 a.m. Bible Study	16  4 PM Pray with Pastor 5 pm Youth Group 5:30pm Bible Study 7 pm Choir Practice	17	18	19  9 am <b>Women's Group</b>
20  9:15 Adult S.S. 10:30 Worship 6 pm Community Thanksgiving service	21  4-9 pm Tri Kappa	22  9:30 a.m. Bible Study 5:30-7pm GS Mtg 7:15-9pm GS Adult Service Team	23  4 PM Pray with Pastor 5 pm Youth Group 5:30pm Bible Study 7 pm Choir Practice	24  <b>Thanksgiving</b>	25	26
27  <b>First Sunday In Advent Hangin' of the greens</b> 9:15 Adult S.S. 10:30 Worship	28  5:30 – 8:00pm GS prep and meeting	29  6-9pm GS Adult Service Unit	30  4 PM Pray with Pastor 5 pm Youth Group 5:30pm Bible Study 7 pm Choir Practice			

