

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



*October 2011*

## **From The Pastor:**

How is your Spiritual health doing? We have all sorts of ways to measure our physical health including scales to check our weight, blood pressure testers to check our blood pressure, thermometers to measure our temperature, blood-glucose monitors to measure our blood sugar, and many other tests that our doctors routinely perform. We can pretty well tell how we are doing by looking at the results.

As for our Spiritual health, there really is no way to measure how we are doing. It is up to us to decide; unlike our physical health, no one can measure it for us. We can get some idea by how much time we are spending reading scripture and praying. Do we feel it is enough? How about fellowshiping with our family and with other Christians? And, how about Sunday worship? Are we there? Are you there?

In fact, have you been to church lately? Our fall programming is off to a great start. Tuesday morning small group study on the impact of Easter on our world today, Wednesday evening Bible study, Youth Group, Men's Breakfast, Women's group and fellowship, Choir. Lots going on at First Presbyterian. Oh, did I mention the Sunday morning worship services? Lots of opportunities to learn, have Christian fellowship, and worship our loving God.

And, it is October again and that means the Riley Festival! This year's theme poem is "Her Valentine" by James Whitcomb Riley, of course. You will find the poem somewhere in this newsletter.

Lizabuth Anne's kitchen will once again be open in our church. This year we will be serving our famous Chicken and Dumplin's from 11 am to 3 pm in the basement, as well as delivering these hearty meals to the vendors at the Festival. We need lots of people to come and help on Saturday. Hope to see

you all there on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup>. Let Susan Hott know that you will be coming to help.

Saturday the first will be Men's Breakfast and the women are invited as well! After a hearty meal and devotions, we will tackle the kitchen and other parts of the building to spruce it up for all our Riley Festival guests (and for ourselves as well).

Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, is World Communion Sunday and we will once again celebrate Holy Communion with our Christian brothers and sisters throughout the world. We will also be collecting the Peacemaking Offering, one of the special offerings of the Presbyterian Church USA. This offering is used to promote peacemaking in our country and our world. First Presbyterian Church retains twenty-five percent of the offering for activities in our local community.

As you can see from June Paterson's mission article in this newsletter, our church is busy serving our community. Thanks to all of you who are so involved in being disciples and giving of yourself to help those in need.

You may notice that we have a new pew in the church. Actually, it is not a new pew, but an old, pew from First Presbyterian Church that was removed years ago and has been refurbished. This pew has spent time in sun rooms, game rooms, and even on a front porch. Now, it is back home and in the Selman Room to provide some extra seating for coffee hour.

See you in church,

**Pastor John**

## **Large Print Bulletins**

Did you know that there are large print bulletins available from the Ushers? The entire bulletin is in 20 point type and the words to the hymns are enclosed as well.

## LETTER FROM THE ELDER OF THE MONTH – Dennis Whitson

For the past several months, weather permitting, I take a walk on the country roads near my home after supper. I live in a rural part of the county, so I walk by several farmer's fields. I saw the fields as they were late to get planted, then as the seeds started to sprout. I watched the growth through our several 90 degree summer days. Now I am seeing these fields of corn and soybeans dry down as they come closer to being ready for harvest. I will see combines in these fields in the next few weeks as another harvest completes the cycle.

We truly receive the miracle of a bountiful harvest through the grace of God. Everything has to come together to make it work. The land has to be dry enough to plant, then receive enough rain and sunshine to grow, and then again the land has to be dry enough to harvest. At least in this part of the country, we have been truly blessed that year and year out everything seems to come together for a successful harvest. The harvest each autumn is a testimony to the blessing that God bestows upon us, for which we are all thankful.

Dennis Whitson

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### ATTENTION ALL SESSION MEMBERS

The October Session meeting is  
Thursday, October 13th at 7 p.m.

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### Char's

As I was sitting in my chair relaxing, meditating, and thinking about the beginning of fall, I could not keep from thinking about the various seasons, how they change, and how each one is so very different and unique. Reflecting on the seasons brought to mind a very special classical piece of music entitled "The Four Seasons." (Italian *Le quattro stagioni*), which is a set of four violin concerto's composed by Antonio Vivaldi in 1723. "The Four Seasons" is Vivaldi's best-known work, and is among the most popular pieces of Baroque music. The texture of each concerto is varied, each resembling its own respective season.

Spring- alludes to the sound of birds, a murmuring stream, and perhaps plants being swayed by a soft gentle breeze.

Summer- depicts stifling heat, buzzing insects, and a very violent storm.


Fall- brings to mind a celebration of harvest and a hunt.

Winter- brings to mind an icy cold rain, chattering teeth, perhaps slipping on ice, shelter by an inside fire, and ending with a howling windstorm.

Reflecting on the four seasons and their individual changes brings to mind God's beauty in each specific season. As we enter into the fall season and observe God's beauty in the changing of the leaves' brilliant colors, let us be ever mindful of God's beauty as he works through each of us. Perhaps there are changes we need to make within ourselves to enable our own individual colors to radiate God's beauty from within each one of us. One way to show

God's beauty may be to help a sick loved one or friend. Another may be helping to make noodles or a dessert for our upcoming Riley Festival dinner or chili for our upcoming "Chili Days." Perhaps his beauty can be seen in a crowded supermarket as we wait patiently in line.

Each day we have opportunities to be a blessing to others. Let us remember to take the time to allow God's beauty to be seen working through us.

As always, keep a song in your heart. Char 

## ***GREETERS FOR OCTOBER*** ***– Youth Group***

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Elder on Call for October  
- Jean Garvey 431-9090

### **ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING**

September 4	Attendance 41	Offering \$ 726.00
September 11	Attendance 33	Offering \$2060.00
September 18	Attendance 31	Offering \$ 790.00
September 25	Attendance 32	Offering \$1162.00

### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

#### **October Birthdays**

10/09 Nancy Opel  
10/12 Carol Foster  
10/19 Jennifer Warner  
10/22 Kyle Hough  
10/24 Wilma Trout  
10/28 Ralph Scroggins  
10/29 Jim Samuels

#### **October Anniversaries**

**There are no October Anniversaries**

## **MISSIONS**

Here is a list of all the mission projects, starting in August of this year, and ending in December!

### **August - Backpack Attack:**

Successfully completed and delivered to J.B. Stephens School on Blue Road. Grateful thanks from the group!!

### **Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>World**

### **CommunionSunday/Peacemaking Offering**

Since 1981, the Presbyterian Church USA has committed itself to this annual event that culminates on World Communion Sunday.

Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> – Offering Envelopes in pews  
Brochure inserts in bulletin & Moment for Mission

Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> - World Communion Sunday/offering.

Treasurer forwards funds

***25% can be retained by our church!***

### **Westminster Christmas Boxes**

No coordinator named yet, but here is their intended schedule:

Family enrollment: October.

Donations delivery: First week in December.

Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> packaging

Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> distribution @ Westminster

We will have a box in the Selman Room Nov 6 thru 27<sup>th</sup>.

***NB: Jill Lyon has volunteered to deliver our box.***

### **Mental Health Association – December**

We are trying to keep it apart from the Westminster project. I will place box in the Selman Room December 1st. I have suggested that the Church commits to a pre-determined number of boxes. I will post a list showing supplies needed, and ask congregation to sign up accordingly.

### Joy Offering (Christmas Eve Service):

Supplies have been ordered by Telephone, confirming standing order that has been used in previous years. Offering envelopes will be placed in pews in time for the Christmas Eve service.

### Adopt-A-Family &/or a Resident of an Assisted Living Facility

These two suggestions are under discussion.

### Year-round Projects Food Pantry & H2O.

### Golden Living Center

Each Sunday morning, Shirley Johns, plays for the Golden Living Center Sunday Service. We miss Shirley, but we know that her music is very much appreciated!

Submitted: June Paterson

## Riley Festival Needs!



How do we get those chicken dinners across the road? We can we do it with your help! Those Riley Festival chicken dinners will need to be delivered to the vendors at the festival at lunch and dinner. The work hours are short (11-1 and 5-7). Please see Jill Lyon.

**We also need desserts – cakes, cookies, cupcakes, etc. - to be delivered to church by 10am on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>.**

## YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Our Youth Group continues to meet at 5 pm on Wednesday evenings for dinner, fellowship and some Bible-based discussion. We are planning a Halloween Party, but have not been able to come up with a date that will work for the youth. We'll let you know through the Prayer Vine when we set a date.

Our youth will be the official ushers and greeters at Sunday worship during October. Come and let them welcome you!

## THOUGHTS FROM RICHARD TERHEIDE

As a farmer harvests his crops this time of year he is undoubtedly counting his blessings .Daily, we Christians, should focus on our blessings of poverty, grief, hunger, thirst and mercy. For Christ said, "Blessed are the poor in, for theirs is the kingdom of God. Blessed are those who grieve, for they will be comforted. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

Two examples of these blessings .One of these comes from the life of my great-aunt, who lived in Northern Michigan at the end of the nineteenth century. Her letter tells of the grief her family experienced and how it brought forth a blessing of the spirit that stayed with my great aunt the rest of her life. In her own rough hewn vocabulary she remarked.

"Due to the fact that my mother was sick a great deal of the time and I was required to be available to run errands and fetch and carry for her . We moved into a house (not much of a house I'll admit)but it was ours and we lived very sparingly until my mother passed away of tuberculosis of the lungs and I was her only help, my father having to work for fifty cents a day and was glad to get that, and on top of all my poor father had to build the coffin for to bury my mother in, after he worked hard all day, for we all knew she would not live much longer. So each evening after a supper of potatoes boiled with the jackets on in salt water and some times milk, if the neighbors had any left to give us or when some times someone would

bring a cake in; Dad and I would go down to grandfathers livery stable in one or the other stalls that was used as a sort of a back room and we would work on mothers coffin. Dad was a finisher and he done lovely work, he made a lovely lining out of some quite elegant silk and satin petticoats that our not numerous, aunts and cousins had discarded, and made a little secret pocket in the lining of the coffin. Each pay day we'd put a nickel or dime or sometimes a copper or two in this little pocket so that Dad would be able to buy roses for my mothers funeral: he would bring her wild flowers for her when he could and was determined that she should have hot-house ones when she died; and were red roses. I thought they were the most beautiful ones I ever saw."

I heard the following story on National Public Radio about, a Canadian politician, Jack Layton.

Mr. Layton was said he despaired meeting people who thought his name was 'But Jack Layton..' because he was so often quoted only about what he opposed.

"I realized that I was in the process of being typecast," he told the *Toronto Star* in 2003. "I decided, 'We're going to switch from opposition to proposition.'"

He brought the New Democrats to their biggest victory in history in May, but by July, Jack Layton's cancer returned. Two days before he died, he wrote a letter that his family released this week. It is graceful, blunt and personal.

"Unfortunately my treatment has not worked out," he writes, but tells others afflicted with cancer, "please don't be discouraged that my own journey hasn't gone as well as I had hoped. You must not lose your own hope. Treatments and therapies have never been better....My only other advice is to cherish every moment with those you love at every stage of your journey, as I have done this summer."

And then, a man who gave his life to politics closes with what amounts to a personal credo:

"My friends, love is better than anger. Hope is better than fear. Optimism is better than despair. So let us be loving, hopeful and optimistic, and we'll change the world."

Let us count our blessings, be merciful, and, with the help of our loving God, perhaps change our little piece of the world.

**2011 Riley Festival Theme:**

**Her Valentine**

**By James Whitcomb Riley**

**Somebody's sent a funny little valentine to me.  
It's a bunch of baby-roses in a vase of filigree,  
And hovering above them—just as cute as he can be—  
Is a fairy cupid tangled in a scarf of poetry.**

**And the prankish little fellow looks so knowing in his glee,  
With his golden bow and arrow, aiming most unerringly  
At a pair of hearts so labeled that I may read and see  
That one is meant for "One Who Loves," and one is meant for  
me.**

**But I know the lad who sent it! It's as plain as A-B-C!—  
For the roses they are *blushing*, and the vase stands *awkwardly*,  
And the little god above it —though as cute as he can be—  
Can not breathe the lightest whisper of his burning love for me.**

# October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>8am</b> 1 <b>Men's Breakfast</b> Food – Richard T Devotions – John Women Invited Cleaning Session
<b>COMMUNION</b> 2 <b>WORLD</b> <b>COMMUNION</b> <b>SUNDAY</b>  <b>9:15 Adult S.S.</b> <b>10:30 Worship</b>	3  4-9pm Tri Kappa	4 9:30 a.m. Promised Land 5:30-7pm GS Mtg	5 <b>Prepare Chicken</b> <b>9am til Noonish</b> 4pm Pray w/Pastor 5:30pm Bible Study 5 pm Youth Group 7 pm Choir Practice	6 <b>Make</b> <b>Dumplings</b> <b>6pm – 9pm</b>	7 <b>Make</b> <b>Dumplings</b> <b>9am – done</b>	8 <b>Chicken and</b> <b>Dumplings</b>  <b>11am – 3 pm</b>
9 <b>9:15 Adult S.S.</b> <b>10:30 Worship</b>	10  6-7pm GS Mtg	11 9:30 a.m. Promised Land	12 4 PM Pray with Pastor 5 pm Youth Group 5:30pm Bible Study 7 pm Choir Practice	13 <b>Session</b> <b>Meeting 7 PM</b>	14	15 <b>Women's Group</b>
16 <b>9:15 Adult S.S.</b> <b>10:30 Worship</b>	17  4-9 pm Tri Kappa	18 9:30 a.m. Promised Land 5:30-7pm GS Mtg 7:15-9pm GS Adult Service Team	19 4 PM Pray with Pastor 5 pm Youth Group 5:30pm Bible Study 7 pm Choir Practice	20	21	22 <b>St. Paul's</b> <b>Anglican</b>  <b>1-5pm</b>
23/30 <b>9:15 Adult S.S.</b> <b>10:30 Worship</b>	24/31  6-7pm GS Mtg	25 9:30 a.m. Promised Land  6-9pm GS Adult Service Unit	26 4 PM Pray with Pastor 5 pm Youth Group 5:30pm Bible Study 7 pm Choir Practice	27	28	29

