Dear Friends,

This coming Monday, August 20, will be the beginning of the remodeling of our older structure. It has taken a long time to get to this point. Those of you who have been a part of Carbondale First know that there have been discussions for several years about enlarging the music area downstairs, removing asbestos, putting in a new heating and cooling system, remodeling the small kitchen near the Heritage Room, and making the restrooms in that area more accessible. Well, that time is finally here.

It has taken a lot of work and energy to get to this point. The Building Committee, the Board of Trustees, and the Finance Committee have put in a lot of hours to get the remodeling going. There has been volunteer work done to move out all of the furniture and materials from rooms so that the work can be done. This has saved a lot of money and it is greatly appreciated. People gave up their free time and Saturdays to get this work done. Without these people, things simply would not have gotten done in the timely manner in which they have.

The Priscilla Circle and Families in Progress are two of the groups that gave their time. I just want to say “thank you” on behalf of the Church.

As I have mentioned in the past, there will be some inconveniences while the work is going on, but this is necessary for the work to move forward. Patience and a little flexibility will be important for these next months.

This coming Thursday, August 16, 7 p.m., the Sanctuary Choir will begin rehearsals again after a three-week vacation. If you have a desire to sing in the choir, this is your invitation to join the rehearsal this week. We need persons who are willing to make this commitment and let their voices be heard in worship.

Also, on Sunday, August 26, we will be receiving several new members into the Church. I have been inviting persons who desire to join the church to come at 9:30 a.m. the past two Sunday mornings for a time to answer any questions about church membership. These classes have been completed, but if you have a desire to inquire about joining the church, give me a call at the office and we will set up a time to meet. The phone number here is 457-2416.

We have a new person working in our office now. Barbara Mueller has been hired to take the place of Julia Morrill as part-time office staff. As you recall, Julia left to spend time with her daughter during her daughter’s pregnancy. If you have time, stop in and introduce yourself and welcome Barbara.

This is all I have to share with you for now, but to ask you to remember our students, teachers, and administrators in prayer as they begin a new school year. Education is an important part of the maturing process beginning in elementary school and all of the way through college. Let’s support and encourage all of those in this process of learning. And REMEMBER, with a new school year comes student visitors from SIU who will be in worship. Let’s make sure that we make them feel welcome.

See you Sunday,

Alan
In Church This Week

16 Thursday
5:45 Gentle Toning, Stretch, Yoga, Rm. 404
7:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

17 Friday
9:30 Golden Yoga, Room 404

18 Saturday
8:15 Worship Service
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship Service

19 Sunday
8:15 Worship Service
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship Service

20 Monday

21 Tuesday
8:30 Men’s Group, Heritage Room
9:00 Daniel Plan Essentials, Room 403
10:15 Golden Yoga, Room 404
5:30 Rotary Club, Heritage Room
7:00 Scout Eagle Board, Room 308

22 Wednesday
9:00-3 Healing Touch (by appt. only), Rm. 308

23 Thursday
4:00 Don Boehne, Heritage Room
5:45 Gentle Toning, Stretch, Yoga, Rm. 404
7:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

24 Friday
9:30 Golden Yoga, Room 404
7:00 Audubon Society, Heritage Room

25 Saturday

26 Sunday
8:15 Worship Service
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship Service

OUR NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARE HERE!

Copies of our new Church Directory will be available to pick up in the Narthex following the first service this Sunday, August 19. You may also come by the church office to pick up your copy. If you had your photo taken for the directory, your copy is FREE.

Thank you!

In Sympathy: Sympathy to Gary Hill & family & friends, on the death of his mother, Helen Hill, who passed away on August 12, in Cape Girardeau, MO.

Rosebud on the Altar: Congratulations to Ashley & Lane Patterson and big brother Reid, on the birth of their daughter Lenore Adele who was born on August 1. Great Grandparents are Betty and the late Kent Bishop and Elaine and the late Bob Crain.

PrimeTimers Notification: PrimeTimers will NOT meet in August. The next PrimeTimers Luncheon and Program will be September 27.

ATTENTION METHODIST MEN!

Join the “Men’s Group,” led by Reverend John Sims, on Tuesday mornings in the church Parlor (Heritage Room). The group meets from 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. for conversation, sharing, and coffee and donuts. Men of all ages and faith are welcome.

Join us and invite a friend.

Disciples for Sunday, August 19, 2018

Outside Greeter: Mike & Joyce Vancil
Van Drivers: John Graig, Brian Gorecki
Welcome Center: 8:15 Judy Dillinger; 10:45 Barbara Kimmel
Coffee Hosts: 8:15 Lyn Christy and Jeff Anderer; 10:45 Sara & John Hinde
Children’s Church: K-5: Necia Jannings; Youth Helpers: Michael and Abby Koch
Children’s Church Registration: JoVonna Noble
August Nametags: Carolyn Saunders
Connie Wieck, our covenant relationship missionary, sent the summer 2018 newsletter. She reports the Luzhou Vocational and Technical College where she works successfully applied for “Most Excellent Vocational School” status. This approval will permit the College to build two dormitories, a sports complex, another faculty housing residence and two more teaching buildings in a three-year program. Connie also reports that after 15 years of work, the English Language Resource Center came into being. She reports the Center serves as a great place for students to relax, spend time with their teachers, browse through the displayed English books and magazines, and enjoy playing language games not available in China.

Midwest Mission Distribution Center sent thanks for our partnering with it. Their note included John Wesley’s credo that is always worth repeating: “Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can.”

Murphysboro Food Pantry asked its community to donate to the pantry through the annual Postal Carriers Food Drive. The successful drive collected over 2,600 pounds of food on May 12. Students at Murphysboro Middle School raised 500 pounds of food. The General John A. Logan Attendance Center raised over 700 pounds of food. The Relay for Life event on June 89 raised 359 pounds of food. A dire need of the Pantry is for shopping carts. The 10 they have seem to be on their last ‘legs’ (rollers?). If you know of any store that is replacing carts or another source, the Food Pantry would appreciate hearing about them.

Fifteen well stocked grocery bags of food were delivered to Feed My Sheep. The items were from our July Collection. We will continue to collect food in August and September and welcome your donations. Remember: I CAN, ONE (1) CAN. Thanks.

Thank you for the support of our various campaigns. Our cooperation with these agencies help make a difference across our local area, the state, nation and world.

Missions Committee
Children’s Opportunities
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Children’s Sunday School - (K - 5th grade) uses Deep Blue from Cokesbury. The morning begins with music at 9:30 a.m. in Room 415.

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. Children’s Church - (K - 5th grade). All children are invited to Children’s Church following the Children’s Time at the 10:45 a.m. worship service.

August Sunday School - Main Topic: “The People Jesus Met”
August 19 Sunday School, “The Woman at the Well”

Youth Opportunities, 9:30 a.m.
Faith development through Bible lessons, emphasizing a relationship with God through Jesus.

Middle School meets in Room 410 and uses On the Go.

High School Class meets in Room 409 and uses a variety of materials connecting the lessons of the Bible with issues relevant to today’s youth.

Adult Opportunities, 9:30 a.m.
Renew - Renew is a group of women seeking deeper meaning in their lives through Bible study, reflection, and prayer. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 402. Women of all ages are welcome.

The Investors Class - Investors is an intergenerational class for all adults. Join us for a new study just starting: "The Ten United Methodist Beliefs," by Don Adams. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 404 (the Chapel). Books are available in the Chapel. Everyone welcome!

The Electives Class - Scripture studies are led by Rev. John Sims. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room. All are welcome!

Small Group Opportunities
The Daniel Plan Essentials meets in Room 403 at 9:00 a.m. on most Tuesdays. Check the church calendar. Everyone welcome.

Grateful Hearts has recessed for the summer and will resume in Fall, 2018.

Youth Group has recessed for the summer and will resume for the 2018-19 school year.

Men’s Group - All men of church are invited to coffee and refreshments on Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room. We discuss anything and everything from the perspective of our relationship with God.