Our Mission Statement: “Called together by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim God’s presence and love in the world through prayer, worship, education and service. We invite children, youth, and adults to become disciples of Jesus Christ, live fully in the Holy Spirit, and embrace God’s love.”

In Church This Sunday
April 29, 2018
COMMITMENT SUNDAY
10:00 A.M. COMBINED SERVICE

Sermon: “Stepping Into Our Future”
Rev. Alan Rhein

Scripture: II Corinthians 8:1-7

Anthem: 10:00 Take My Life
Sanctuary Choir; Cindy Massie, Director

Hymns:
52 All Creatures of Our God and King
98 To God Be the Glory
383 This Is a Day of New Beginnings

COMMITMENT SUNDAY
Envisioning Our Future
Creating Spaces Where People Thrive

Altar flowers this week are given by Andrew & Janet Earnest, in celebration of their 45th wedding anniversary.

Indoor Greeters: Mike & Joyce Vancil
Acolytes: 10:00 John and Madison Voss
Sound System Operator: 10:00 Keven Mitchell
Liturgist: 10:00 Darren Bailey
April Ushers: John Williams, Captain;
10:00 Ed Tresnak, Krishna Balasubramanian, Mythili Rundblad, Bruce Wallace

Dear Friends,

This coming Sunday, April 29, is the time to make our commitments to the “Envisioning Our Future” capital campaign. We began the campaign “officially” on March 18, after we approved a plan for the remodeling and updating of our older facilities on March 4. Now is the time for us to move forward with the project and support it with our giving. I know many of you have been discussing this project a lot longer than the weeks of our campaign. It has been a part of the mindset of this congregation to update the downstairs music and youth area ever since what we call “Phase I” was started and completed.

The addition of the updating of the heating and air conditioning for the older structure, evolved after realizing that the existing system was nearing 30 years old and would need to be replaced in the not-too-distant future. So, this was added to “Phase II” and I guess you could call it “Phase III.” As the study for the project was done, it was realized that some of what was done for “Phase II” might have to be “redone” in the future to do the work of “Phase III.” The conclusion was to ask you to support doing both projects at the same time and avoid “redoing” any of the work. This is what was approved by a vote of the congregation on March 4. At any rate, now we are ready to make our commitments, and hopefully begin construction in the fall. I know many of you have joined me in praying for guidance and wisdom as we approach this time, and I know God will bless our efforts now and in the future.

I want to remind you that this Sunday, April 29, we will have one service at 10:00 a.m., with no Sunday School. As we have done in the past on our regular commitment Sundays, after we make our commitments in worship, we will then move to the Civic Center for a brunch. We want everyone to come to the brunch, whether you are able to make a commitment or not. We want to fellowship together on this day of commitment.

I don’t want anyone to feel intimidated or pressured about making a commitment. You may not be able to make a commitment at this time. The whole point is that we give, based on what we are able to give, while reflecting on how God has blessed us in our lives. Giving done this way is an expression of our willingness to live by faith and to trust God as we make our decision to give.

One final word — We are not having a sign-up for a Prayer Vigil before “Commitment Sunday” this year. Instead, we are asking everyone, on April 28, to take some time throughout the day to especially pray for the future ministry and vision of First Church.

I look forward to sharing “Commitment Sunday” with you, both at worship and at the brunch, as we celebrate what we will commit ourselves to do as we “Envision Our Future!”

See you Sunday,

Alan
In Church This Week

26 Thursday
11:30 PrimeTimers Luncheon & Program, Fellowship Hall, $8 lunch
5:45 Gentle Toning, Stretch and Yoga, Rm. 404
7:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

27 Friday
9:30 Golden Yoga, Room 404
6:00 S.I. Audubon Society, Fellowship Hall

28 Saturday Commitment Sunday

29 Sunday One Worship Service at 10 a.m.
8:45 Confirmation Class, Room 403
10:00 Worship Service
Brunch at the Carbondale Civic Center immediately following the service

30 Monday
6:00 Building Committee, Board of Trustees, Heritage Room
7:00 Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall

1 Tuesday
6:30 a.m. Bus leaves for Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Chatham, IL
8:30 Men’s Group, Heritage Room

2 Wednesday
6:00 Youth Group, Fellowship Hall & 409

3 Thursday
1:00 Priscilla Group, Room 210
5:45 Gentle Toning, Stretch, Yoga, Rm. 404
3:00-5 Chimes Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall and Bell Room
6:00 Education Committee, Room 410
7:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

4 Friday
9:30 Golden Yoga, Room 404
7:30 SI Flute Choir Concert, Sanctuary

5 Saturday
11:00-1 Vivienne Hertz Visitation
1:00 Vivienne Hertz Memorial Service, Sanctuary
5:30 Saturday Night Live, Bandana’s
7:30 Joseph Walczyk Trumpet Concert, Sanctuary (FREE)

6 Sunday Communion
8:30 Worship Service
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship Service
(The ASP Silent Auction begins after the second worship service)

In Sympathy: Sympathy to Nelda & Conrad Hinckley and family, on the death of her sister, Joanne Loiselle, who passed away on April 9, 2018 in Denton, TX.

In Sympathy: Sympathy to Kathy Hollister and family, on the death of her mother, Phyllis Hollister, who passed away on April 19, 2018 in Michigan.

Health Concerns: Angie Brown is recovering at home; Clayton Funk is recovering at home. “Chub” Cralley is in Carbondale Memorial Hospital.

Correction: We apologize for an error in the April 22 Altar Flowers description. It should have read, “Altar flowers are given by Joe Trobaugh, in memory of Norma Woolard.” Thank you.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 29, IS COMMITMENT SUNDAY. THERE IS ONLY ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 A.M.

PrimeTimers: Join us this Thursday, April 26, for PrimeTimers Luncheon and Program at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our program speaker is Illinois Botanizer, Chris Benda “The Flora of Southern Illinois.” Sign up today! Lunch is $8.00.

CALLING ALL 2018 GRADUATES AND PROUD FAMILIES
Congregation members who will have new graduates from middle school, high school, or college-level degrees in their families this year, please place them on the sign-up list in the Narthex, or contact the Church office (457-2418).

PLEASE INCLUDE THE GRADUATE’S FULL NAME, DEGREE LEVEL, SCHOOL, AND FAMILY RELATIONSHIP

DEADLINE: Before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 30. These graduates will be honored in the May 6 edition of the Asburian

CHURCH LANDSCAPING CLEAN-UP DAY!

WHO? Families, individuals, groups
WHERE? Church parking lot
WHAT? Weeding, transplanting, mulching
WHAT TO BRING? Shovel, shears, gloves
CONTACTS: Jean Boehne (549-1319) or Claudia Broom (713-4478)

SADDLEBACK CHURCH LANDSCAPING CLEAN-UP DAY!

When? Saturday, April 28th, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Who? Families, individuals, groups
Where? Church parking lot

What? Weeding, transplanting, mulching

What to Bring? Shovel, shears, gloves

Contacts: Jean Boehne (549-1319) or Claudia Broom (713-4478)

Sign-up sheets will be available in the Narthex for each of these events.

SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE
Saturday, May 5, 2018
5:30 p.m. at Bandana’s
Hosts are Jean & Don Boehne

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
Monday, May 7, 2018
1:30 - 5:45 p.m. • Heritage Room

Disciples for Sunday, April 29, 2018
Outside Greeters: Sara, John, Cayden and Carlisle Hinde
Welcome Center: 10:00 Betty Bishop Van Drivers: John Graig and Don Bryant, Jr.
April Nametags: Mary Lou Goodman
APRIL EVENTS

21 Saturday
Cache River District Spring Meeting,
Carterville First UMC, 309 Pine Street, Carterville
Featured speaker: Suzanne Wesley
9:00 a.m. - Registration, light breakfast, and fellowship
9:30 a.m. - Welcome, worship and program
12:00 noon - Lunch and fellowship

DANIEL PLAN ESSENTIALS
“In this four-session video-based Bible study, The Daniel Plan team explores both the spiritual and the health benefits of following a healthy lifestyle by focusing on the first essential of The Daniel Plan: Faith. The sessions include: Every Body Matters; Magnificent Obsession; God’s Power, Not Will power; Your Soul’s Path to God.”
We invite anyone who is interested in learning more about the Daniel Plan and living a healthy life to join us
Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. in Room 403
STARTS TUESDAY, MAY 8
Contact Necia for more information

CHECK IT OUT!!
in the Diane Neill Dorsey Memorial Children’s Library

Clam-I-Am by Tish Rabe

“Hello! I’m the Fish. To the beach Let us go! The Fish Channel asked Me to star in a show.” Part of The Cat in the Hat’s Learning Library.

FOOD PANTRY DELIVERY HELP NEEDED!
We will be delivering collected food items to the Good Samaritan Food Pantry on Monday, May 7. If you can help load and unload or have a van or truck that you can drive to help transport the food items, please let Necia know by calling the church office or email at neciaj@fumc-cdale.org

PROJECT GROCERY BAG
The children of Children’s Church will be handing out grocery bags at the end of the service on Sunday, April 29, to collect items for the Good Samaritan Food Pantry.

Please take a grocery bag, fill it with non-perishable food items and return it to the church on Sunday, May 6.

ITEMS NEEDED
Rice, Rice mixes, Pork & beans, Dry Great Northern Beans, Cereal, Oats, Peanut butter, Jelly, Dry milk, Egg noodles, Canned pasta, Crackers, Soup, Chili beans, Kidney beans, Koolaid, Lemonade drink mix, Sugar, Coffee, Macaroni & Cheese, Canned vegetables, Canned fruit

No household goods or paper products, please

“...Feed my sheep” JOHN 21:17

Join our team of “Castaways” at VBS
July 22-26 • 6-8 p.m.
Have you always dreamed of a tropical island in the middle of the ocean? Ever wanted to be Gilligan, the Skipper, Mary Ann or the Professor? Here’s your chance!!! Grab your sunscreen and beach hat and join our Crew...teachers, escorts, musicians, crafters...there is a place for everyone at the Shipwrecked adventure.
Contact Necia to be a part of the VBS Crew!!!
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.

THERE IS ONE SERVICE THIS SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL NOT MEET.

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. They are studying “Anxious for Nothing, Finding Calm in a Chaotic World,” by Max Lucado. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 404 (the Chapel). Everyone welcome!

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

Small Group Opportunities

The Daniel Plan meets in Room 402 at 9:00 a.m. on most Tuesdays. Check the church calendar. Everyone welcome.

Grateful Hearts will meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., Room 308 soon. Watch for updates.

Youth Group meets at 6:00 p.m. weekly on Wednesdays in Room 409 and Fellowship Hall.

2018 ASP MISSION TRIP PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Please Help us Help Others!!
Sunday, May 20, 2018
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

DONATION: $5.00
FAMILY: $15.00 MAX
CHILDREN UNDER AGE 12: $3.00

Pancakes, Sausage, Blueberries,
Strawberries, Whipped Cream,
Coffee and Juice

SAVE THE DATE
SILENT AUCTION TO BENEFIT THE
YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO APPALACHIA
MAY 6th,13th AND 20th, 2018

Bidding is in the Heritage Room before and after each service, continues each week, and stops at a set time after the second service on May 20th.

We are currently taking donations of items to be featured in the auction. Homemade food items, handcrafted goods, and new items are needed to fill the auction tables. Used items of particular value, like antiques, may also be acceptable. Please contact Tom Byford at the church office, if you have any questions about item donations.

SILENT AUCTION

MIDWEST MISSION DISTRIBUTION CENTER
TRIP SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2018
Sign up now for the Tuesday, May 1 trip to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Chatham, Illinois.

A SIGN-UP SHEET IS IN THE NARTHEX.