

# FIRST FOCUS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
2000 E. COLLEGE AVE., NORMAL, IL 61761  
309-452-4459



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NORMAL, IL 61761  
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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS A  
LIFELINE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE  
TO FIND, LOVE AND SERVE JESUS.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

JANUARY 2

Worship/Communion

10:00 a.m. only

No Sunday School, Youth Group  
or GIRL! Choir

JANUARY 9

Worship - 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

9:45 a.m. Church School

Installation of Officers

JANUARY 16

Worship - 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

9:45 a.m. Church School

Youth Group will not meet today

JANUARY 23

Worship - 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

9:45 a.m. Church School



12/19 – 382

12/24 – 387

12/26 – 124

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Dear friends,

**“Behold! I  
bring you good  
news of great joy!”**

the angel  
announced to the  
shepherds on that  
first Christmas  
night. You can  
practically see the  
excitement and joy  
on her face as she  
finally gets to spill  
the beans. She’s  
been waiting so  
long to tell someone, ANYONE her good  
news! And now, *finally*, she can.

I know the feeling. Since before  
Thanksgiving, I too have been bursting to tell  
someone, ANYONE *my* good news. Though  
certainly not as earth-shaking as the birth of  
our Savior, the news that Dave and I would  
soon have a child was pretty momentous for  
us! We told the small handful of family and  
close friends right away, and then had to wait  
and keep our mouths shut with everyone else  
for what seemed like FOREVER!

But the time has finally arrived for us to  
share our good news with everyone- our entire  
family of faith- here at FPC and at St. John’s  
Lutheran, where Dave is a pastor. And it feels  
so good to have you all joining in this journey  
with us.

We give thanks to God every day for the  
gift that this child will be, and indeed, already  
is. And we pray for him/her already. After  
learning so much about prayer this last fall, I  
feel like it’s okay to ask God for big things. So  
we’re praying for a happy, healthy baby that  
sleeps all through the night. That’s not too  
much for God, right?

In our prayers, we also give thanks to  
God for YOU all, and for your enthusiastic,



encouraging response. Whatever happens, we are confident that this baby will be well-loved by its many brothers, sisters, aunts, and uncles, grandmas and grandpas of faith. And *that* is indeed very good news.

In love and gratitude, Pastor Becca



**STANLEY C. COLE**  
July 6, 1917 – December 25, 2010

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN



for yourself or your child(ren),  
please contact  
Pastors Gaylord or Bruner



BOOK  
STUDY  
GROUP  
9:00 A.M. THURSDAYS

Newsletter



Deadline

JANUARY 5

**DECEMBER**  
**WESTERN AVENUE**  
**COMMUNITY CENTER**



Please leave **NON-PERISHABLE** donations in the containers between the sets of double doors at either entrance of the building.



CHILDCARE

is available at worship services through kindergarten age.

WORSHIP BAGS

are offered for children in worship and located in the main hallway desk.



**MEN'S PRAYER GROUP**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 3**  
**6:30 - 7:15 A.M.**  
**LOUNGE**

This group is open to all men and meets every two weeks to discuss various topics. Next meeting: January 17



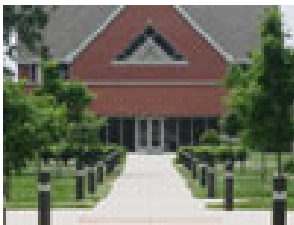
Donations of **APPLE & WHITE GRAPE JUICE** are needed.

Please leave your donations in the kitchen near the Great Hall.



**Details of request by permission only**

- Bud Satchwell**, cancer, father of Gary  
**Maria Herren**, cancer,  
cousin of Wendy Satchwell  
**Mary Gillian**, cancer,  
friend of the Swearingens  
**Ginny Clarahan**, surgery  
**Teresa**, cancer, friend of Wendy Satchwell  
**Tammy**, vision loss, friend of Karen Zappa  
**Letha**, daughter has cancer,  
friend of Louise Crumpler  
**Paul Frazier**, son of Joan  
**Bill, Pat & Rob Laughlin**  
**Mary K.**, cancer, friend of the Klinger's  
**Phyllis Lutz**, cancer, friend of Peggy Grove  
**Doug Troxell & family**, cancer,  
friends of Darren Brant  
**Ray & Sharon Cunningham**, for their 3  
grandchildren living in Springfield, MO,  
that God will come into and guide their lives  
**Beth Smith**, broken kneecap  
**Doris Rice**, Kevin's mother  
**Jim Paranzino**, cancer, uncle of Linda Tidei  
**Gerald Hillyer & family**, Alzheimers, family  
member of MaryJo Hillyer  
**Jill Charr**, breast cancer, former teacher of  
Robert Schwalm  
**Linda Williams**, mother Madeline Lyons,  
hospice  
**The Family of Charles Blimling**  
**The Family of Stan Cole**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who responded so quickly and generously to the Kemmerer Village Advent Mission Project. Your gifts will help share

God's love and joy with children who really need it.

Special thanks to the Harms family for their help in setting up the display at church. Please keep the Kemmerer kids in your prayers at Christmas and throughout the year.

**Submitted by Andrea Doss,  
Connections Committee**



It makes a big difference to people when they are greeted coming through the church doors on Sunday morning.

**GREETER SIGN UP BOOK** is located on the counter near the office.



Thanks to all who helped serve meals at Safe Harbor in 2010. The nice, new facility has a very functional kitchen to prepare and serve the meals.

2011 Safe Harbor meals signup sheet is located on the board in the main hallway.

If you've never cooked for a crowd before, don't worry, coaching is available as well as a manual with guidelines and menu ideas.

Please be part of this worthy cause and sign up to prepare and serve a meal.

**Submitted by Mary Jo Hillyer, coordinator**

**\*\*\*\*\* After serving 5 years as Safe Harbor Coordinator, Mary Jo Hillyer is stepping down to pursue other church interests. Please contact her (664-4414) if you are interested and/or have questions about this responsibility.**



**FRIDAY, JANUARY 28**

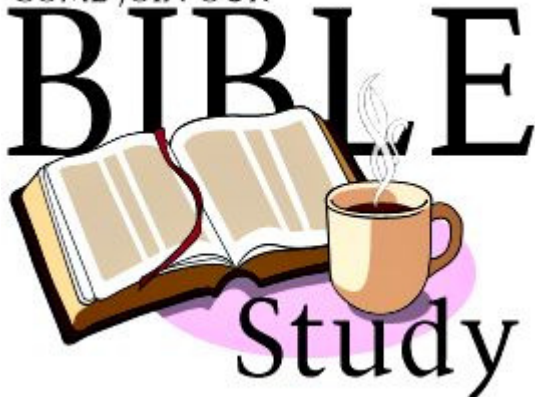
**5:30 - 9:00 P.M.**

Parents, have a night out while their children play at church supervised by our great childcare workers. Fee is \$5/family.

RSVP to Carol:

[welcome@firstpresnormal.org](mailto:welcome@firstpresnormal.org)

COME JOIN OUR



Information and Registration for

**Bible in 90 Days**

can now be found online!

Learn all about the program, sign-up to participate and even submit your questions!

<http://www.firstpresnormal.org/BIND2011/index.html>

**ADVENT UN-DECORATING  
& LUNCH  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 9  
NOON**



**COME VISIT WITH FORMER MEMBERS *Marion and Graham Jones*** who were very active at First Pres several years ago. They will be here visiting from Australia for a week in early January.

They would like to see as many friends as possible. If you can, stop by Margaret Wolf's, 1:30-4:00 p.m., Friday, January 7 and have a cup of tea with the Jones'. Everyone is welcome.

For directions, contact Margaret: 309-747-2868 or [wolfland@gridcom.net](mailto:wolfland@gridcom.net).

**COMING SOON!**

Learn how to YOU can be empowered to raise your kids in faith! FPC is co-sponsoring this amazing conference taking place at Second Presbyterian Church *Cost: \$15/person*

**Childcare available at First Pres. Provided by the FPC Youth as a fundraiser for Mission Trip 2011. For reservations call or email the church office. [welcome@firstpresnormal.org](mailto:welcome@firstpresnormal.org)**



empowered parenting conference

**Never Mind the Joneses**

raising Christian kids *your way*

A one-day conference equipping parents to be the *primary faith shapers in their kids' lives*

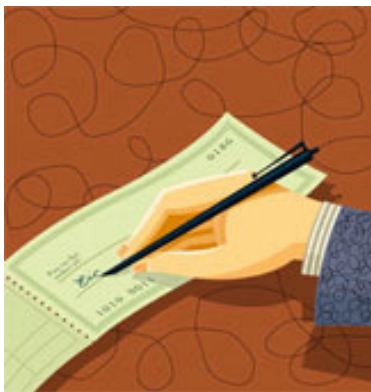
Saturday, February 5, 2011 | 9 am - 4 pm  
At Second Presbyterian Church

[www.empoweredparentingconference.com](http://www.empoweredparentingconference.com)  
for more information and to register

**Want to read the book ahead of time?  
Copies available at FPC for \$8**

**PREACHING SCHEDULE- WINTER- LENT 2011**  
**“The Bible in 90 Days”**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Texts</b>
1/9	<b>Introduction: Beginning the Journey</b>	<b>Psalm 19 2 Timothy 3:14-17</b>
1/16	<b>Abraham: The Journey of Faith</b>	<b>Gen 15, 17, 22</b>
1/23	<b>Moses: That's Why They Call it the Desert!</b>	<b>Num 11:4-23</b>
1/30	<b>Gideon: From Worrier to Warrior</b>	<b>Judges 6:11-12, 25-32, 34</b>
2/6	<b>David: A Spiritual Heart Check</b>	<b>2 Samuel 7, 12,15; 1 Samuel 18</b>
2/13	<b>Nehemiah: How Do You Rebuild After a Disaster?</b>	<b>Nehemiah 1-6</b>
2/20	<b>Esther: Courage When it Counts</b>	<b>Esther 4, 7</b>
2/27	<b>Solomon: The Healing Power of Positive Words</b>	<b>Proverbs 12:18, 16:24, 18:21</b>
3/6	<b>Jeremiah: How to Keep Going When You Feel Like Giving Up</b>	<b>Jeremiah 1,20,32</b>
3/13	<b>Daniel: How to Stand Up for God</b>	<b>Daniel 1,2,6</b>
3/20	<b>Haggai: How to Overhaul Your Priorities</b>	<b>Haggai 1</b>
3/27	<b>Jesus: Do You Have What it Takes to be a Disciple?</b>	<b>Mark 1, 8, 16</b>
4/3	<b>Paul: How to Be Transformed By Grace</b>	<b>Acts 8,9, selections from letters</b>
4/10	<b>John: Taking the Ho-Hum Out of Heaven</b>	<b>Revelation 21</b>



**PER CAPITA FOR 2011: \$28.00 for each church member in the household** Special Per Capita envelopes are available in the pew racks throughout the month of January. Your contribution of \$28.00 for each church member in your household is a big help in our local church budget, and greatly appreciated.

The “Per Capita Apportionment” provides administrative support for the Presbytery of Great Rivers, the Synod of Lincoln Trails, and General Assembly. The \$28.00 per member is divided this way: Presbytery, \$17.69; Synod, \$3.81; General Assembly, \$6.50. Our presbytery executive, Rev. Sue Krummel and her staff are doing excellent work for the churches of our presbytery. Their salaries are supported by Per Capita. Thank you for your contribution.

**They're taking the**

**CLIMB**



**Are YOU??**

Ann Beck  
Avana Nice  
Bryan & JoAnn Freeman  
Carol Baker  
Chelsea Pokrzywinski  
Christina Uphoff  
Cindy & Madison Bobrytzke  
Claude Bell  
Dale Arbour  
Dana Sutton  
Dave & Cara McMorris  
Dave Ashbrook  
Debbie Stumm  
Diane & David Brent  
Dorothy Lambert  
E'Lane Tufts  
Eric & Kristin Boeck  
Heather & Lena Flitz  
Heather VanSchelt  
Jacque Hansing  
Jamie & Kyle Pott  
Jane VanSchelt  
Jerry McGinnis  
Jim & Barb Bouas  
Joan & Mark Klinger  
Joan Edgren  
Joan Frazier

Karen & Miriam Zappa  
Karen Earing-Winter  
Koh Family  
Lea Spinks  
Linda Speers  
Linda Williams  
Lisa Frey  
Louise Crumpler  
Lynn & Matt Litwiller  
Marilea White  
Mark & Kathy Sherman  
Mary Jo Hillyer  
Matt & Erin Stombaugh  
Melissa, Kyle, Brenda Pish  
Mons & Carol Schrantz  
Nancy Annegers  
Rachel & Jim Wilson  
Rob & Becky Mentzer  
Rob Kelley  
Ron & Sandie Price  
Sam & Shirley Redd  
Sheila Melzer  
Steve & Rose Yahnig  
Tom & Julie Buckles

**Information and Registration for B.I.N.D.  
can now be found online!  
Learn all about the program, sign-up to participate  
and even submit your questions!**

**<http://www.firstpresnormal.org/BIND2011/index.html>**