

509 S. Pearl Avenue  
Joplin, MO 64801  
417-624-2433

www.fpcjoplin.com  
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OFFICE HOURS  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Rev. John Conley, *Pastor*

Program Staff  
Janelle McKenzie  
*Family Ministries Director*

Angel Garcia  
*Youth Director*

Terry & Karen Dolanc  
*Choir Directors*

Dr. William M. Roehling  
*Organist*

Doris Walters  
*Stephen Ministry Leader*

Administration  
Richard Sapp  
*ShoalKirk Ranger*

Mary Wilson  
*Business Administrator*

Beverly Scroggins  
*Office Administrator*

Dan Largent  
*Custodian*

Crystal Bush  
*Assistant Custodian*

Donna Scheid  
*CE Supply Clerk*

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 16, 2010 ♦ Volume 44 No. 4



# F.P.C. News

509 S. Pearl Avenue ♦ Joplin, MO 64801 ♦ phone: 417-624-2433 ♦ email: fpcjoplin@fpcjoplin.com

## From the Pastor's Desk . . .

One of the hardest elements of a dissolution of a pastoral relationship, for both the members of the congregation and the pastor, is the necessity to *really* terminate the asking for or the offer of professional services. It's especially true in the case of weddings, funerals, baptisms, hospital calls, or counseling. Because such occasions have been so integral a part of our close association over the years, it's very tempting to assume that there would be no harm for me, if asked, to come back to perform them again.

But long experience in countless congregations declares otherwise. Real damage is done when former pastors return to perform such services because it serves to delay, confuse, or even undermine the bonding that should rightfully occur between the members of the congregation and the new pastor.

I am sure you will agree with me that forming a good, strong relationship with your future pastor deserves the very best each of us can offer. And that "best" surely includes a commitment from you and me not to ask for, nor to offer such services.

How grateful I am that our faith makes it possible for us to accept such a closure with *positive* feelings! For after all, we are but the "actors" in this grand drama of God's redemption. And even though we come on stage or leave, the Author abides unchanged and eternal! That's really all that matters.

~by *Ralph Johnson*

**I have found Rev. Johnson's counsel to be helpful and true.**

**Peace,  
Pastor John**

	Feb 7, '10	Feb 8, '09
Worship	156	188
Kid's Kingdom	16	26
Nursery	5	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>225</b>
Sunday School	69	120
	Feb 14, '10	Feb. 15, '09
Worship	197	174
Kid's Kingdom	15	23
Nursery	9	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>206</b>
Sunday School	85	120

**February**

- 23 Sarah Green
- 24 Christina Hardy
- 25 Gerald Schultz
- 27 Marcia Chesney,  
Melanie Stanley
- 28 Deryl Edwards, Jr.,  
Andrew Falls, Joy O'Dell, Richard Sapp



**March**

- 1 Matthew Crumpacker, Christopher Evans,  
Robert Miller, Betty Jo Russell
- 2 John Archer, Larry Hickey
- 4 Scott Browning, Deryl Edwards,  
Layton Jeffries, Jason Knutzen

**Easter Lilies**

Your donation to the Easter Lily Fund given in memory or in honor of a loved one, will help decorate the church sanctuary with beautiful lilies during this Easter season. A portion will help purchase palm fronds for the Palm Sunday service. Complete this form and return it to the church office with your check marked, "Lily Fund."



**(Please print)**

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Bulletin Board**



Youth & Club 345  
Bowling Night  
This Friday, February 19, 7:00  
pm  
Carl Richards 4th Street Bowl



Congratulations to us!  
FPC collected  
557 cans of  
soup for Crosslines'  
Soup-er Bowl Sunday



Make your \$\$\$\$\$\$ do double duty!  
1st Tuesday Lunch, March 2, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Cost: \$6.00  
1. Enjoy a delicious lunch 2. Proceeds will benefit Ronald McDonald House  
Call 624-2433 for carry-outs . . . Dessert donations needed and appreciated!



**Misplaced a book?** If you loaned "The Big Rich" to Pastor John, let him know and he will return it to you!



**Congregational Guide Reception**  
Sunday, March 7, 10:45 am  
The Membership Care Committee will host a reception for all new members and their mentors to help them become familiar with the church's committees and their functions.



PW Gathered Meeting and Luncheon  
Wednesday, February 24, 10:30 am.  
Program presented by Kathy Lewis  
"Crosslines - With Love, From the Church to the Community"  
Everyone is invited to come and learn more about Crosslines Ministries and the important work that is being done in our community.  
Coordinating Team at 9:30 am.



Hearts, Minds and Hands in Mission  
\$1,451 was given last Sunday in this special offering for our hurting brothers and sisters in Haiti.

**Ethics and the Church  
February 20-21**

**"Six Faces of Ethics"**

Saturday, February 20  
10:00 - 11:30 am  
John Knox Hall

- ◆ Why Be Ethical?
- ◆ Am I My Brother's or Sister's Keeper?
- ◆ Why Should I Care?
- ◆ The Golden Rule OR Does the Gold Rule?
- ◆ Is Life More About Rules or Character?
- ◆ Does Mark McGwire Have an Obligation to Tell the Truth?



Pastor, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church  
Albuquerque, New Mexico, and  
Professor of Religious Studies, UNN

**"Why Be Ethical?"**

Sunday, February 21, Sunday School Hour  
A Question & Answer Period in JKH

**"Was Glaucon Right?"**

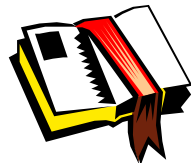
Sunday, February 21  
9:30 am Worship Service

# Preparing Our Hearts Resurrection Sunday



**Centering Prayer** - Each Monday during Lent (*February 15-March 29*) at 7:00 pm, in the Parlor, John Conley and John & Carolyn Hale will lead anyone interested in the discipline of silent prayer. Even if you missed the first session, you are welcome to join the group. Please call the church office or sign up in John Knox Hall so that enough material will be ready for everyone. Call or see John Conley if you have any questions.

**You are invited** - Begin each Wednesday during Lent on a high note. Join the Motley Crew at 7:00 am in JKH for a six-week study of the Parables of Jesus. Bring your Bible and come prepared to experience a time of renewal and refreshing in anticipation of the celebration of Resurrection Sunday. Everyone is welcome.



## Spring WOW!

Each Wednesday during Lent, February 17 - March 24.

Dinner, 5:15 pm and Classes, 6:00-7:00 pm.

February 17 & 24 - "Defending Your Life" - portions viewed and discussed.

March 3 - "Preparing for Your Presbyterian Funeral".

Each of these classes will be led by John Conley.

March 10 - 24 Information available soon.



Activities for children and youth, and a nursery will be provided based on the number and ages of children who have pre-registered before the first WOW

session. If you plan to bring your children to WOW, you **must** pre-register in order to assure the availability of a class. Registration cards are available on the table in JKH, or you may call the church office.

To help with planning purposes, please RSVP for each week's dinner.

A sign-up sheet is available on the table in JKH, or you may call the church office.

Each WOW evening will include a PW "Creating Prayer Shawls/Quilts" group led by Joyce Skinner. You do not have to be a quilter, a knitter, a crocheter, or have any kind of needlework background or talent at all! Anyone is invited to drop by any or all of these sessions and work on this project, or just "sit a spell". This is not a class of sewing instruction. Instead, it is a chance to learn about the Prayer Shawl/Quilt PW ministry and to enjoy a time of fellowship.

# Weekly Calendar

Sunday, February 21

- 9:30 am Worship Service
- 10:30 am Fellowship, JKH
- 10:45 am Sunday School
- 11:40 am Missions
- 5:00 pm Intercessory Prayer
- 5:00 pm Youth & Club 345

Sunday, February 28

- 9:30 am Worship Service
- 10:30 am Fellowship, JKH
- 10:45 am Sunday School
- 5:00 pm Intercessory Prayer
- 5:00 pm Youth & Club 345

Monday, February 22

- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm KidStuff
- 6:00 pm Cub Scouts
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- 7:00 pm Centering Prayer

Monday, March 1

- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm KidStuff
- 6:00 pm Cub Scouts
- 6:00 pm ShoalKirk
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- 7:00 pm Buildings & Grounds
- 7:00 pm Centering Prayer

Tuesday, February 23

- 6:45 am Men's Bible Study
- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm KidStuff
- 7:00 pm Session

Tuesday, March 2

- 6:45 am Men's Bible Study
- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm KidStuff
- 11:30 am 1st Tuesday Lunch

Wednesday, February 24

- 7:00 am Motley Crew, JKH
- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm KidStuff
- 9:30 am PW Coordinating Team
- 10:30 am PW Gathered Meeting
- 4:15 pm Covenant Choir
- 5:15 pm WOW Dinner
- 5:40 pm Praises Ringing
- 6:00 pm WOW
- 7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir

Wednesday, March 3

- 7:00 am Motley Crew, JKH
- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm KidStuff
- 10:00 am PW Circle 1
- 5:15 pm WOW Dinner
- 6:00 pm WOW
- 4:15 pm Covenant Choir
- 5:40 pm Praises Ringing
- 7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, February 25

- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm KidStuff

Thursday, March 4

- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm KidStuff

Friday, February 26

- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm KidStuff

Friday, March 5

- 7:30 am - 5:30 pm KidStuff

Saturday, February 13

- KidStuff Teachers' Retreat

## Deacons on Call for the Month of February

Sharon Vernon (438-3238) and Jennifer James (540-0404)

These deacons are the emergency contacts for notification of hospitalization, death, or any other concern needing immediate attention.

John Conley's contact information:

Office - 624-2433 Cell - 529-1551, e-mail - johnc@fpcjoplin.com

**REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION**  
**February 8, 2010**

Your Session met in a regular meeting Tuesday, January 26, 2009. The meeting opened with those present singing The Doxology and then the Moderator, the Reverend John Conley, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with prayer. All 18 Elders were present or excused. Family Ministries Director Janelle McKenzie also was present.

Minutes of the regular Session meeting of December 15 were approved with one correction noted. Janelle had a written report of her activities since the last Session meeting and also commented on the new KidStuff financial statements and operations. Youth Director Angel Garcia had a written report in the Session Packet.

Pastor John reported that the employment of Assistant Custodian Chad Pancake had been terminated. Reverend Conley requested time off during the period March 11 through March 21 for a study tour to Turkey with Oklahoma University professors and Presbyterian pastors Drs. Tom and Barbara Boyd. That request was approved. John announced that John Calvin Presbytery is sponsoring a Leadership Development Conference in Springfield on February 6 that will be emphasizing stewardship. John, new Stewardship Chair Martha Kungle and the undersigned stated that they would be attending.

A new brochure describing Shoal Kirk as a site for weddings and receptions was reviewed. The brochure states our church's policies governing weddings at Shoal Kirk and sets a fee of \$350 for weddings and receptions for non-members. Session approved that brochure, the policies and the fee.

Reverend Conley discussed with the Elders the problems presented for a pastor and the congregation when former pastors of a church conduct weddings or funerals. If a pastor is not given the opportunity to be involved in these important church services, it becomes difficult for the pastor to establish relationships with all of the members of the congregation. That will become more important when our church calls a new pastor. John noted that John Calvin Presbytery has a policy of telling former clergy to not return to a church that they formerly served for the purpose of conducting weddings or funerals. He asked the Session if there was any objection to the adoption of the following policy for our church: "Former pastors will not be invited to officiate at weddings and funerals of the members of the church." No objections were voiced and that will be our ongoing policy.

The Clerk's report for the period ending January 21 was approved. That report contained the following membership changes: At their request the memberships of Arlene and Ken Nash and Julia and Kenton Foster were transferred to the South Joplin Christian Church and the memberships of Joy and Vernon O'Dell were transferred to the Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church of North Fort Myers, Florida. As the O'Dell's intend to be in Joplin a few months during the year, they requested Affiliate Membership in our church, which Session granted. Session approved the Clerk's Annual Report to Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). A schedule for Elders to serve communion during 2010 was distributed.

The following changes in the Committees and Ministry Areas of our church were announced and agreed upon: Richard Sapp should be added as a member of the Shoal Kirk Committee. Charles Edwards will become the Chair of the Adult Discipleship Ministry Area. Jennifer James will become the Co-Chair of the Deacons with Eleanor Travis. Tod Thompson will serve in the Mission Ministry Area

in place of Kellee Uber and end his service in the Children's and Youth Ministry Area. Gina Atteberry will become the new Chair of the Worship and Music Ministry Area in lieu of Karen Sapp.

Jeff Knutzen, chair of the Finance Committee, reviewed the financial statements as of December 31 and those reports were approved. During December our church received \$53,064 in revenues, while expenses were \$63,049. For the year 2009 revenues were \$499,503 and expenses were \$518,495. Jeff presented the Finance Committee's proposed budget for 2010 noting that this year some part of Janelle's and custodian's salaries and related payroll taxes are allocated to KidStuff. This results in a projected deficit of about \$19,000 for KidStuff for 2010 that can be considered as a mission of our church. The proposed 2010 budget was approved as presented.

Jeff further noted that our church's mission activities go far beyond the items listed in the budget as to which \$7,400 is allocated. Jeff distributed a separate schedule of Mission Giving at First Presbyterian Church that lists 22 benevolences with expenditures of \$69,347. Even this list does not include such items as the recent "Souper Bowl" where our congregation donated several hundred cans of soup collected for Crosslines.

The Building and Grounds Committee had a written report and Chair Steve Tusinger also reported that repairs to the sanctuary lighting had been completed. Session approved payment of \$1,160.65 for these repairs from the General Building Reserve in Gifts and Memorials.

The undersigned, for the Gifts and Memorials Committee, noted that last year Session authorized the disbursement of \$500 monthly during 2009 to Crosslines Churches from the Allhands Mission Fund. Session approved a \$500 payment to be made to Crosslines immediately and agreed that at its February meeting it would conduct a review of the overall mission-giving program of the church.

Pastor John led the Elders in a prayer for those affected by the recent earthquake in Haiti. A special offering "Open Your Hearts for Haiti" was authorized to raise funds to be used by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Haitian relief. At its February meeting Session will consider authorizing other special offerings to take place during 2010. The meeting concluded at 9:20 pm. with prayer by Reverend Conley.

Respectfully submitted,

Claude Jardon, Clerk of Session



Our sympathy to  
Marjorie Evans and family  
In the death of her husband  
**Frank Evans, Jr.**  
February 7, 2010

*Marjorie Evans*  
100 Glenview Pl, #407,  
Naples, Florida 34108