First Presbyterian Church
10 Charleston Ave.
Mattoon, IL 61938
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Website: www.fpcmattoon.org

First Alert

Upcoming Events

Sept. 8 DEACONS PICNIC
Sept. 11 LOGOS 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Sept. 14 PURDUE VARSITY GLEE CLUB CONCERT 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 22 GOLF OUTING 3:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship

Adult Bible Class
8:30 a.m.
Worship Service*
9:30 a.m.
Children’s Church
9:45 a.m.
(after Children's Chat)

*Childcare provided

Pastor
Rev. Matthew Froeschle

Treasurer
John Swick

Youth Director
Toby Montgomery

Music
Scott Hines

Worship AV
Brandon Barta

Church Custodian
Rick Plummer

Administrative Assistant
Cherry Wishard
In reading the stories about the calling of Peter and the first disciples, we often marvel at how quickly those folks left everything to follow Jesus. I’ve heard - and preached a number of sermons on how we are called to leave everything behind for the sake of God’s Kingdom.

However, if you’re like me, it’s not long before you start to feel guilty and ashamed, thinking about how much you tend to hold on to. You may wonder, as I do, if you would have done the same thing had you been in Peter’s place. Would you have dropped everything? Would you have been like James and John, leaving behind the family business to answer the call?

Yet upon reflection, and after spending quality time with Jesus, I’m less and less mystified by those accounts. It’s no more surprising than a hungry man eagerly making his way to the buffet line, or a thirsty woman stopping by a water fountain, or someone in utter darkness making their way towards the one light shining in the distance.

The one who hungers for the truth will be attracted to Jesus, for Jesus is the truth. The one who hungers for God will be attracted to Jesus, for He is God. In Jesus, those early disciples saw God in a way no one had seen since the fall - and they saw him in the form of a perfect human being.

When others did turn away (it happened), Jesus asked them if they too were ready to leave. In response, Peter said: “Lord, where else would we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

It may seem like foolishness, but this is the truth we proclaim: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. When we hear the truth, nothing else will do. Jesus is often called the very “Word” of God.

Let us follow our compelling, wonderful, and loving Lord into this September and beyond. Let us hear God’s voice, even through the sometimes difficult and strange prophecies of the Old Testament (right?).

The Word is be there for us, no matter what. And truly, with Jesus, life is a call to new adventure.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Matthew
Food pantry items are being gathered. Please keep the food coming and help those in need. Food can be left in the Narthex.

September: Baby food (Jars)

**September 1**
Glenda Fitzgerald
**September 7**
Sophie McDaniel
**September 8**
Brookelynn Figgins
**September 9**
Donita Faris
**September 12**
Gayla McDaniel
**September 16**
Sheri Gilkerson
**September 20**
Sandra Dye
Lindel Martin
Jan Ronchetti
**September 21**
Paul Daily
**September 23**
Sharon Barta
**September 24**
Kathy Saunders
**September 25**
Doug Moore
**September 27**
Bill Saunders

**September 2**
John & Melanie Smitley
Earl & Becky Bennett
**September 4**
Lon & Mary-Nance Miller
**September 5**
Joe & Connie Buescher
**September 12**
Doug & Pam Moore
**September 15**
Terry & Joyce Seldomridge
**September 22**
Nick & Amy Bumgarner

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**The Thursday Morning Bible Study**
Group will begin study of Exodus on September 5 at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome.

**PRISCILLA CIRCLE** will be meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 10 at 7:00 pm at the home of Jan Cornell, 1601 Stinson. Please come and join us as we enjoy an evening of Bible trivia and fellowship.

**The Presbyterian Women** will be hosting an after-church luncheon on Sept. 22. The membership committee will be our featured presenter. The women are asking for donations of casseroles, salads, breads or desserts. A sign-up sheet is on the narthex table.

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**Continued prayer for those having treatments for medical conditions:**
Mavis Bagby, Jean Beaird, Kathy Beaver, Earl Bennett, Joan Dickens, Evelyn Furry, Jeremiah Parker, Betty Martin, Betty & Bob Miller, Elner Oliver, Lori Woodyard, The Barta family.

**For all those who are serving in Armed Forces:**
Matt Gathmann, Kelly Martin, Hunter S. McRoberts.

Keep saving the Box Tops for Education for Kemmerer Village. Place them in the box in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks to all who save them.

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**Sarah Circle** will meet in the church parlor on Tuesday, September 10th, at 10:30. Bobbie Mc Roberts will have the devotion and Blanche Mills will open our new study on the Ten Commandments. Lesson one will cover the first two commandments by exploring God’s self-revelation and our call to embrace God as our One and Only. If you are interested in this topic, please join us.

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Thank you to the church for all the prayers concerning my low sodium scare. They were all appreciated. – Mary Lou Gaskill
**Healthcare Power of Attorney, Do You Have One?**

In the following, we will be talking about Death, yes, I understand that is a difficult subject for many. With Hospice work in my background, I often forget that in our society we shy away from this subject. I feel this is a pretty important subject so forgive me if I have made you uncomfortable.

A health care Power of Attorney is a document in which you designate someone to be your representative in the event you are unable to make decisions about aspects of your health care. This should be a person you trust and who knows your values and religious beliefs. Often folks have a living will or advance directive, along with a health care POA. A Living will just lets a person state their wishes for end-of-life medical care, in case they become unable to communicate their decisions. It can be revoked at any time and has no use after death. You do not need an attorney for this as there are many forms online that will help you think about your wishes. Do you want life-prolonging medical treatments such as blood transfusions, CPR, a respirator or surgery? Do you want food and fluids? Would you opt for palliative care? This type of care is given to reduce pain and keep the patient comfortable if they forego life-prolonging treatments. Deciding what kind of care, you want is not easy. Most people find themselves considering not only their own preferences, but also how their choices will affect their loved ones. And sometimes there is no easy or obvious choice. For example, it may be hard for your child to learn that you don’t want to be given food or water if you become permanently unconscious. He or she may prefer to extend your life as long as possible. So, I would suggest an ongoing conversation between family members as parents age. Communicate your wishes. No matter what they are, it will make the end of life much easier for everyone involved. – Jean Jones

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**Where did summer go?** Here it is August 26th and I am reflecting on just how much summer has passed us by without even as much as a hello. The youth have been back in school now for a full week or so and I cannot believe that Logos will be starting up in about 2 weeks. The Cubs had an awful weekend and now sit at 2.5 games back of the dreaded Redbirds for 1st place in the division with right around a month of games left. Somehow, I feel that these last 5 weeks or so will be interesting when it comes to baseball.

I did my summer intensive classes at Dubuque Theological Seminary for 2 weeks back in early August and I definitely learned something about myself while I was there. I have this overwhelming fear of not being good enough when I do certain things and training for ministry is definitely up there with those fears. I feel like I am constantly worried that I will fail at Seminary or simply that I just don’t belong there. But God has a way of knocking me back down to Earth so to speak. Every time I think that I cannot do something, God will show me that yes indeed I belong. Whether it be a good grade, or some very kind words by someone else, something always happens that makes me feel better.

While I’m driving to Seminary, I am usually terrified of what could happen. On the first night though, I attended chapel and the Professor’s sermon was on the subject of fear and pressure. She talked about how we should let go of our fears and that God can take them away from us when we ask. I felt like she was talking directly to me. Here I am scared to death of failing and she is giving a sermon about that exact thing. Sometimes the Lord works in mysterious ways for sure and I cannot overlook the fact that I feel that God was speaking directly to me through my Professor. It gave me goosebumps, but it also reassured me that I was doing the right thing. Look for those signs, church! They are everywhere! I’ll see you on the flippity flop! - Toby
**Sunday, September 1**
Adult Bible Study 8:30 a.m.
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Children’s Church 9:45 a.m.
Worship Committee Meeting after service
SMS 2:00 p.m.
Youth Group 3:00 p.m.

**Monday, September 2**
Church Office Closed

**Tuesday, September 3**
Prayer Group 10:00 a.m.
Dulcimers 1:30 p.m.
Barbershoppers 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 4**
Women’s Board Meeting 9:00 a.m.
Membership Committee 10:00 a.m.

**Thursday, September 5**
Bible Study Group 9:00 a.m.
Men’s Prayer Group 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday, September 8**
Adult Bible Study 8:30 a.m.
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Children’s Church 9:45 a.m.
Deacon’s Picnic
Pre-Pack Food Center 1:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 10**
Prayer Group 10:00 a.m.
Sarah Circle 10:30 a.m.
Dulcimers 1:30 p.m.
Personnel Meeting 4:30 p.m.
Priscilla Circle 7:00 p.m.
Barbershoppers 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 11**
Stewardship & Finance 1:00 p.m.
B & G 2:00 p.m.
LOGOS 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, September 12**
Bible Study Group 9:00 a.m.
Men’s Prayer Group 10:00 a.m.
Mystery Book Club 6:00 p.m.

**Saturday, September 14**
Purdue Varsity Glee Club Concert 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, September 15**
Adult Bible Study 8:30 a.m.
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Children’s Church 9:45 a.m.
Youth Group 3:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 17**
PEO 9:00 a.m.
Prayer Group 10:00 a.m.
Dulcimers 1:30 p.m.
Quadrangle Book Club 1:30 p.m.
Mission Committee 6:30 p.m.
Barbershoppers 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 18**
LOGOS 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, September 19**
Bible Study Group 9:00 a.m.
Men’s Prayer Group 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday, September 22**
Adult Bible Study 8:30 a.m.
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Children’s Church 9:45 a.m.
Deacon Meeting after service
Luncheon after service
Youth Group 3:00 p.m.
Golf Outing 3:00 p.m.

**Monday, September 23**
Deacons Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 24**
Prayer Group 10:00 a.m.
Dulcimers 1:30 p.m.
Session 6:00 p.m.
Barbershoppers 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 25**
LOGOS 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, September 26**
Bible Study Group 9:00 a.m.
Men’s Prayer Group 10:00 a.m.
Piano 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, September 29**
Adult Bible Study 8:30 a.m.
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

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Kemmerer Village News
Open House Sunday, October 6th from 1-4 p.m. to celebrate 105 years of caring for Children.

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Dorothy Phillips 90th Birthday party on July 29, 2019.

Mattoon First Presbyterian Church
Purdue Varsity Glee Club Concert begins at 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 14th
These men have stirred hearts from legendary stages such as Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall and have performed for six presidential inaugurations.
Tickets are on sale now $25.00. Proceeds to help fund “Community Christmas”

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LOGOS is an intergenerational program designed for all ages of the church to develop and foster relationships in Christ together! Our kids' program consists of ages K-5th grade. They will attend Bible study, learn worship arts and have recreational time.
THE FIRST ALERT

Return Service Requested