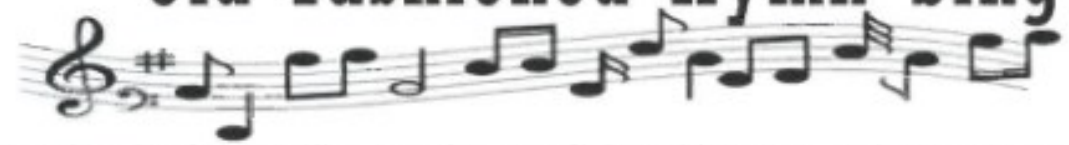


Summer Afternoon At The Park

Sunday, September 12 2 pm at North Park

Old Fashioned Hymn Sing



Gather in the pavilion to sing traditional hymns Bring your lawn chairs!
Brought to you by the Gibson City Ministerial Committee



Ice Cream Social to follow
(approximately 2:30)

Vintage Baseball Game

3:30 pm McMillan Field



Watch Coach Christian Rosenbeck and the Gibson City Guys play
the Springfield Long Nine Vintage Baseball team! Some of the rules of the
game they will follow:

- No sliding allowed at all
- No tagging up on a caught fly ball
- No cussing... .25 cent fine
- No sunglasses
- No gloves



Be sure to be there for the
Finn Fairley Fundraiser Drawing at the Vintage Baseball Game
for the 2022 E-Z-Go Golf Cart

PRESBYTIDINGS

September 2021

Pastor Ray Lantz

Worship: 10:30 a.m.

This Newsletter is a publication of First Presbyterian Church of
Gibson City IL.

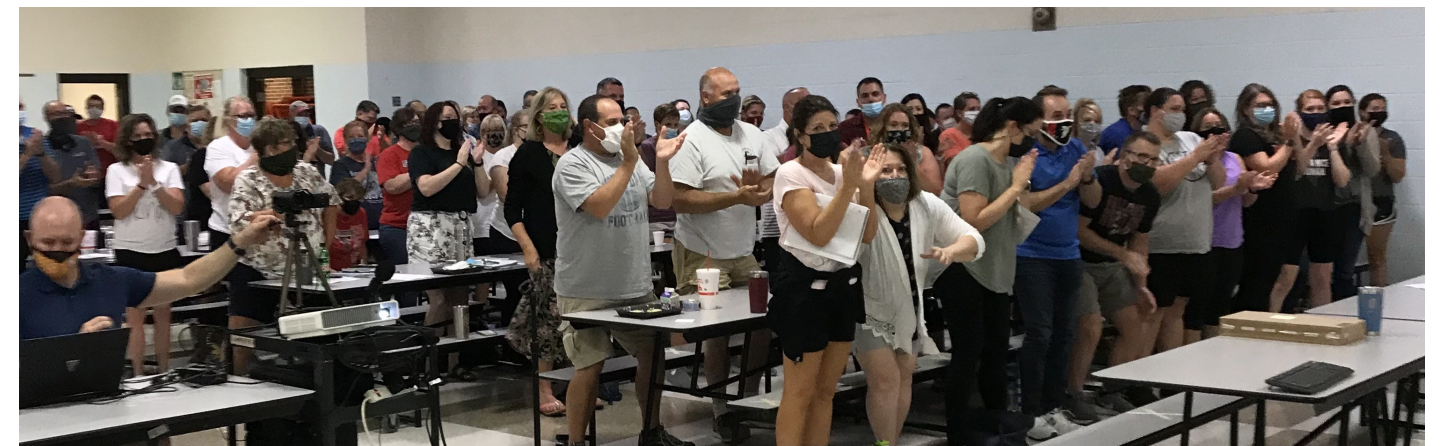
Website: www.firstpresbygibson.org

Meladee Ferguson: Administrative Assistant

Mary Clow: Ministry Coordinator



Our church received a standing ovation at the GCMS employee back-to-school orientation held on August 24th at the Elementary school. All 168 employees received a \$100 bill in appreciation for their hard work during the Covid pandemic. Church members making the presentation included Pastor Lantz, Trudy Lantz, Mary Clow, Val Hunt, Jean Williams, Ted Swanson and Ron Clow. Also in this picture is Superintendent Jeremy Darnell. In addition to the employee donation, a check for \$ 10,000 was also presented to Superintendent Darnell from the McCormick Tutoring Program.



September 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 <i>Recycle</i> <i>9 Bible Study At HB</i>
5 10:30 a.m. Worship <i>Communion</i> <i>James 2:1-17</i>	6	7	8	9	10	11 <i>9 a.m. Bible Study at Holly Brook</i>
12 10:30 a.m. Worship <i>2:00 p.m. Harvest Fest Worship Service, Pie & Ice Cream</i> <i>James 3:1-12</i>	13	14 <i>Blood Drive Noon-6 p.m. Call Sharon Heavilin at Moyer District Library for an appointment.</i>	15	16	17	18 <i>Recycle</i> <i>9 a.m. Bible Study at Holy Brook</i>
19 10:30 a.m. Worship <i>James 3:13-4:3</i>	20	21	22	23 <i>5:30 Session</i>	24	25 <i>9 a.m. Bible Study at Holly Brook</i>
26 10:30 a.m. Worship <i>James 5:13-20</i>	27	28	29	30	Our church's 150th Birthday Celebration will be held in the fellowship hall on Sunday, October 24. Big plans, fun and food are on the menu!	

Pastor Ray will be preaching on the scripture listed in bold on each Sunday.

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCH . . .

Please note: The previous week's sermon will broadcast at 7:45 a.m. every Sunday morning on WGCY.

Please note: Online Live Sunday Services will be available on our Facebook Page noted below:

First Presbyterian Church of Gibson City

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=142499619134911&ref=br_rs

Meladee's working hours: Meladee will be in the church office from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

New Email Addresses: As part of the hardware and software upgrade for our church's technology, there are email addresses as noted below:

Pastor Ray:
Ray@firstpresbygibson.org
 Meladee
Office@firstpresbygibson.org.



“HAPPY LADY”
 Trudy Lantz, wife of Pastor Ray Lantz, wears a big smile while walking their two grandsons, Teddy and Wesley.



The Twins: Wesley is in blue and Teddy is in yellow. Two cuties, no wonder Trudy is a happy lady!

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES		
September 06: Allen Neubauer 17: Gene Roth 17: Danny Heustis 18: Georgie Johnson 18: Jean Jardine 21: John Kirkpatrick 26: Val Hunt 26: Ted Swanson	October 02: Phyllis Brickman 08: Cheryl Schultz 09: Aizza Kerchenfaut 15: Barbara Williams 22: Jeannette Hensley 24: Michael Mott 26: Harry Groom 28: Happy Birthday FPC of GC—1871	
Second Sunday Offering Sept 12: Random Acts of Kindness for Gibson City Flood Relief Oct 10: Gibson Area Music Foundation		K. P. Duty Sept: Ron & Mary Clow Oct: Janice Swanson Sept: Mary Jane Roth Oct: Ted Swanson Flower Vases to CM Sept: Mary Jane Roth Oct: Ted Swanson
Ushers Sept: Janice Swanson and Jeanette Hensley Oct: Trudy Lantz and Val Hunt Communion Server Sept 5: Rick & Anneliese Kerchenfaut		

Anneliese Kerchenfaut spent two weeks in Germany this summer and shared several pictures. Anneliese said everyone was really nice and she made a lot of new friends. She spent time with her cousin and visited sites and castles in Stuttgart, Bisingen, Munich and Ludwigsberg.



Molly Ertle is ready and happy to start the new school year at Head Start.



Glenn Riddle from Riddle Repair has started the process of replacing the air conditioning units damaged by the flood waters.

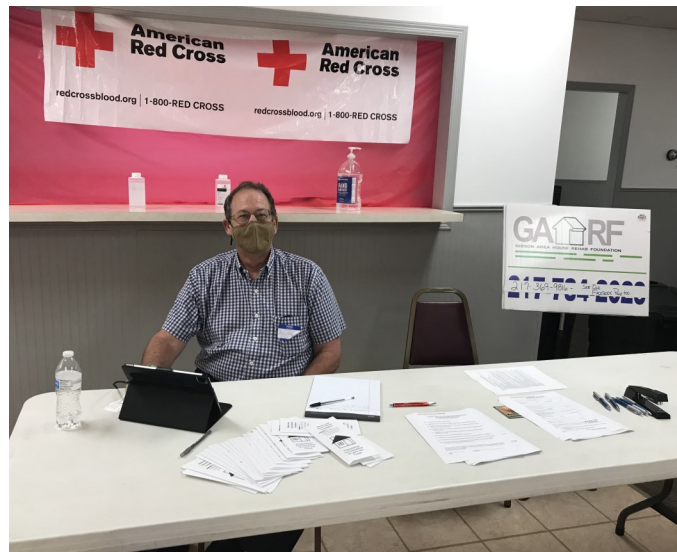


Tim and Janice Swanson with walking sticks enjoyed a hike on a trip to Starved Rock State Park in August.



A variety of crops cultivated at the Community Garden.





Pastor Lantz representing the Gibson Area Housing Rehab Foundation and Mary Clow representing the Gibson Area Food Pantry worked the August 21st Multi Agency Resource Fair held at the Kruse Center to provide information and referrals for those affected by the August 12th flood in Gibson City and Elliott.

THANK YOUS AND SUCH . . .

To Pastor Ray and the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church, We would like to thank you for your generous donation to Because of Cody . . . Different ideas for education about SIDS and safe sleep for babies are being worked on. A coffee table hard backed educational book is right now the most important item. A book we can give to doctor's offices to put out in their waiting rooms along with hospital waiting rooms Gibson Area Hospital will receive books along with Iroquois Memorial and Riverside medical Center and St. Mary's in Kankakee. Education is the key to saving as many babies as we can. Can't wait for you to have one of our books in your church too. Thank you again for al your help. It means the world to Because of Cody . . . and our families. Sincerely, Dawn Knapper, President and Judy Jo Hunt Arbour, Vice President

Thanks so much for the gift this morning. We lost some flooring in the flood. This will go towards replacing it. Much appreciated. So kind of you! God Bless, Diana Livingston, GCMS Middle School

To Pastor Lantz and the church, Please accet my deepest gratitude

for such an amazing gift!! I appreciate it so much!! Torri Ferguson, GCMS Middle School

PWP FALL GATHERING—10/2/21

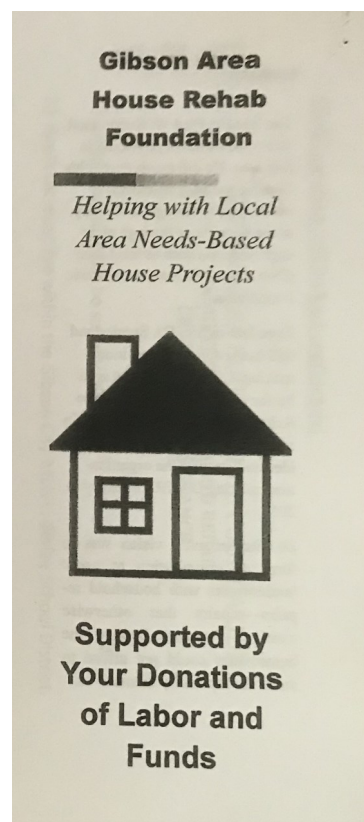
We are pleased to announce that there will be a Presbyterian Women in Presbytery Fall Gathering on October 2nd starting at 9:00 a.m. Joliet Westminster has agreed to host an in-person gathering. The gathering will also be on Zoom. Please register 3 weeks (September 1th) prior to the gathering. Indicate your preference for how to meet (in-person or on Zoom). List your church, contact person with e-mail address for and phone number, the names of those attending and their e-mail address for a virtual gathering. For Zoom attendees, we suggest a donation that will go toward the mission projects that can benefit from our help. Those organizations will be announced at the gathering. For the in-person meeting, the registration fee is \$10 which includes lunch. Send registration checks and donations to Karen Finch at 601 E. Woodburn Road, Byron IL 61010 -9633.

Closer to the October 2nd date a note will be sent to inform attendees about any CDC or Illinois

Health Department restrictions regarding masking or any other restrictions that the host church may have.

Hope to see many of you at our Fall Gathering.

Jill Sunday
PWP Communications Editor



Mary Clow presents the church's 150th Birthday sign that will be displayed outside of church for the open house.



The stained glass window art made by Lee Barry and John Kaufman years ago that stood in the memory garden was refurbished into a window hanging by Randy Monroe (Mary Clow's brother-in-law) and will be on display for the church's 150th birthday celebration. It was made in honor of Marge and Dennis Barry.



Picture 1: Flood waters surround the church. It is estimated 20 inches of water flowed into the church basement .

Picture 2: Flood waters completely cover the parking lot across from the church.



Ron & Mary Clow spent the morning of August 23rd mowing and cleaning up the Head Start playground getting it ready for students returning to class on August 24th.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 150TH BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION PLANS TO DATE

150 YEARS
1871-2021

An Open House will be held on Sunday, October 24, 2021 in the Fellowship Hall from noon to 4:00 p.m.

The event will be catered by Drummer Creek Catering serving pulled pork and chicken sandwiches with fruit and vegetable trays available as well as fun Fall foods like Carmel Apples, Apple Cider, Popcorn, and Fall Cupcakes. Staff from Drummer Creek Catering will be on site to set up the food buffet style and to assist with refilling food and taking care of dishes after the event.

A Scarecrow Contest will be held at the Community Garden with 5 prizes of \$200 each and 5 prizes of \$100 each. See Scarecrow Contest Rules. The prizes will be awarded at our 150th Birthday Celebration.

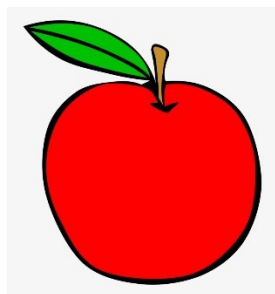
Giveaway items have been ordered with our church name and logo to be handed out during this event. They include Backpacks, Frisbees, Cloth Grocery Bags, Memo Pads, Bookmarks, Post It Notes and Bracelets. Door Prizes will also be awarded to those who attend the event.

A special 150th Birthday Celebration Booklet is being prepared sharing current history and past history and a special sign has been ordered.

Special Invitations will be sent to all those who received Mission Dollars. Also, information will be sent to the other churches in town to share with their congregations and ads will be placed in both newspapers and on the radio.

WE HOPE ALL MEMBERS WILL ATTEND TO GREET THE PUBLIC AND ASSIST WITH THE EVENT!!

If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact Mary Clow.



OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN

FALL SCARECROW CONTEST RULES & REGULATIONS

Sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church in
Partnership with the Railside Golf Course/Gibson Area Golf LLC

Location: Community Garden at the Railside Golf Course

Eligibility: The Scarecrow Contest is open to all ages, businesses, organizations and groups. One entry per individual, family, business, organization or group. Space is limited so first come first served.

Categories: Traditional, Whimsical, Fairytale, Humorous, or Fantasy

Entry Fee: FREE – There is no cost to enter the contest. To participate, entrants must submit a registration form that is approved, sign a Memorandum of Understanding and have their scarecrow on display by the required time on the plot assigned to them.

Five Prizes: A \$200 award for each of the following categories - Most Creative, Funniest and Most Loveable awarded by judges from the First Presbyterian Church. A \$200 award for first place and second place of the People's Choice Award voted by members of the Community. There will be five \$100 runner-up awards. Awards will be paid by check.

Construction: Scarecrows must be handmade and use natural materials. NO commercial costumes, rubber or plastic masks will be allowed. Scarecrows must be self-supporting and durable and able to stand up to sun, wind, and rain. Use care in choosing your materials. All decorations must be firmly attached to your scarecrow and then to the post. We recommend a 2 x 4 piece of lumber for the central body. A broomstick or 2 x 4 is recommended for the arms. No perishable goods or glass please.

Size: The minimum is 4 feet tall and the maximum is 7 feet tall. We recommend securing your post in a 5 gallon bucket with several inches of cement in the bottom. Scarecrows must be secured in a manner that will not blow away and will not otherwise be a danger to or possibly cause injury to anyone. Owners are held solely responsible for the safety and security of their scarecrows.

The scarecrow contest exhibit is FAMILY FRIENDLY. Scarecrows should be whimsical, humorous, mischievous or lovable – Not frightening. Gruesome, bloody or especially scary entries will be disqualified and/or removed. The First Presbyterian Church representatives reserve the right to disqualify and/or remove entries they feel to be distasteful or not family friendly or do not comply with the rules.

Please name your scarecrow that explains their character and personality and include the name on a sign no larger than 11" x 17" along with your name and plot number.

Timeline:

Registration forms will be accepted from October 1 to October 8, 2021.

Scarecrows must be constructed from October 9 to October 16, 2021.

Judging will take place from October 17 to October 23, 2021.

Winners will be announced at the First Presbyterian Church's 150 Birthday Celebration to be held at the Church on Sunday, October 24, 2021.

You need not be present to win.

Removal: All Scarecrows must be removed by the end of the day November 1, 2021.

Interpretation of these rules and decisions by the First Presbyterian Church representatives are final and cannot be challenged.

By entering the scarecrow competition, you confirm that you accept these rules and regulations.

Any questions should be directed to the First Presbyterian Church.



Emergency Session Meeting held August 19, 2021

Session held an emergency meeting to discuss the repairs needed to the church building due to damage from the recent flood. Pastor Lantz took the Elders on a tour pointing out the areas of damage. The motion to approve spending up to \$20,000 as needed was approved. Some of the HVAC units need to be replaced and some can be repaired. The water heater and two dehumidifiers also need to be replaced. Pastor Lantz noted he hopes it does not cost that much money for all the repairs but we won't know until the work is done. Treasurer Phil Noellsch has made an insurance claim with Church Mutual Insurance. Ron Clow reminded the Elders that \$10,000 was put in the Contingency Fund in the 2021 Budget and \$9,000 in rent revenue will be collected from Head Start as they just renewed the lease for the 2021-2022 school year.

Neighboring Presbyterian Churches send funds to assist with Flood Damage

The First Presbyterian Church of **Fairbury** sent a check for \$771 out of their disaster relief investment fund to assist the flood victims in Gibson City. Their Mission Committee will also be creating a fund raising program and hope to be sending more money. The money will be sent to GAHRF - the Gibson Area House Rehab Foundation.

Thank you members of the First Presbyterian Church of Fairbury!!

The First Presbyterian Church of **Piper City** will be sending us \$500 to assist the flood victims in Gibson City. The money will be sent to GAHRF - the Gibson Area House Rehab Foundation. Thank you members of the First Presbyterian Church of Piper City!!

Flood Damage Relief Donation from our Church

At the emergency Session meeting held on August 19th, the Elders approved the donation of \$19,995.00 from our Mission Fund to the Gibson Area House Rehab Foundation to help the flood victims of Gibson City. The additional funds will be taken from our Vanguard Account.

Special Collection for Gibson City Flood Victims

Session has decided to hold a special collection in our church to help the flood victims of Gibson City starting now through the month of September with Session matching all funds collected. The collection will be merged with our Random Acts of Kindness collection and be called Random Acts of Kindness for Gibson City Flood Victims.

Session meeting cancelled

The Session meeting scheduled for August 26th has been cancelled. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 5:30.

GCMS School District Employee Gift

At the July Session meeting, the Elders approved giving all of the 168 employees of the Gibson City Melvin Sibley School District \$100 and 22 bus drivers from Illinois Central School Bus Company as a thank you for the hard work they did during the Covid-19 Pandemic. The gifts were passed out to the employees as a surprise at their August 24th back to school orientation meeting held at the Elementary School. (See pictures on front cover.) Those members who attended the surprise presentation in addition to Pastor Lantz was Mary Clow, Ron Clow, Trudy Lantz, Val Hunt and Jean Williams. Please see the letter included in this newsletter that was included with each monetary gift.

Harvest Fest – Our church will have a table set up on Friday, September 10th at the downtown Harvest Fest. We will be handing out the giveaway items and handing out GAHRF applications as needed. If you are interested in helping man the table, please contact Pastor Lantz or Mary Clow.



First Presbyterian Church

Pastor Ray Lantz

401 North Church Street

Phone 217 784-5422

www.firstpresbygc.org

fpcgc60936@sbcglobal.net

August 24, 2021

To: All Administrators, Faculty, Support Staff, Food Service and Maintenance employees of the Gibson City Melvin Sibley School District and the Bus Drivers from Illinois Central School Bus Company

Thank you for the amazing job and hard work you have done during the Covid-19 pandemic. What a team of talented, caring and strong individuals you all are.

You faced the Covid-19 pandemic with courage and creativity and pulled together to help the students and families of the GCMS School District. You were willing to change direction and rethink all aspects of your job in order to deliver quality instruction shifting at times from

In-person to remote learning amid social distancing guidelines.

Because of your empathy, patience and perseverance, our children will continue to learn before, during and after Covid-19!

We hope this small gift makes you realize that we see you, salute your selflessness and appreciate all your hard work.

With Sincere and Deep Gratitude,

The members of the First Presbyterian Church

Celebrating our 150th Birthday on October 28, 2021