

ELM STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

618-466-5421

101 W. ELM STREET

ALTON, IL 62002

July 24, 2008

Dear Members of Elm Street,

Attached is a questionnaire designed by the Mission Study Team. We are asking each of you to complete the questionnaire and return it by August 17.

Please pray about this and reach into your hearts when considering your responses. We urge you to think "outside the box" when answering. We are looking ahead with a five year plan and now is the time to share your vision for Elm Street Presbyterian Church.

The Team is hoping for 100% participation. Please urge your family members and friends to participate!

Please mail your responses to Richard Sisk c/o Elm Street Presbyterian Church 101 W. Elm Street, Alton, IL 62002. You may leave them in the office, mail them back, or drop them in the offering plate on Sundays.

Again, we ask you to have your questionnaire turned in by August 17. Thank you for praying about this and giving us your feedback. Please have each member of your family fill out a questionnaire. Copies are available at the back of the sanctuary or in the church office. Add extra pages for your response when needed.

Peace and Grace,
The Mission Study Team

Richard Sisk, Moderator
Ann McLaughlin, Vice Moderator

Questionnaire

1. What have been the positive and negative aspects of the yoking experience with First Presbyterian Church? Please explain why/why not.

2. Is it something that we should consider again, and if so, with whom? Would you like to continue yoking with First Presbyterian Church, with a different church, or perhaps, multiple congregations?

3. What do you believe God is calling the church to do (programs)? What types of programs do you think the church could offer that you or others might find beneficial or uplifting? (Spiritual or Social)

4. What worries you the most about Elm Street?

5. Name three things about our church that mean the most to you.

6. What are the three most important things our church faces in the next five years?

7. What form of pastoral leadership should we have (full time, part time, designated, CLP, etc.)?

8. What pastoral gifts and skills are most important to you and Elm Street (preaching, worship, leadership, pastoral care, administration, teaching, etc.)?

9. What attracts you to Elm Street?

10. What about our church do you feel might make a person stay home or go elsewhere?

11. If you could change anything, what would that be, especially with regard to looking ahead for the church?

12. "God willing", will you be here as we set goals and objectives for the next five years and beyond?

13. What are your hopes and dreams for Elm Street?

Name (optional) _____

Please include your age and gender even if you don't sign your name.

M____ F____ Age_____

To start the Prayer Chain for someone in need of prayers call Mary Cordes at 618-465-1760 or 463-1276 or Marjory Bryant at 618-466-5421 or 466-6005. We could use a few more people on the prayer chain, some of our callers have moved, others no longer have a telephone accessible. Mary and Marj get the request for the special prayers and they in turn call those they are to call, who in turn call their people on down the line. Then all are saying prayers for this person. Please contact either Mary or Marj if you would like to be part of the chain or have questions. We desperately need a few more people to make it work.

Next Elm Leaf Deadline
Wednesday, August 27, 2008

ESPC Web Site has been updated and has new features
www.geocities.com/espcaiton

LITURGISTS

August 3 - Jenny Wyatt

10 - Tom Wyatt

17 - Marj Bryant

24 - Jerry Wray

31 - Debbie Wallace

September 7 - Richard Sisk

14 - Chance Shewmake

21 - Tanya Sisk

28 - Debbie Wallace

USHERS

August

Kathy Steinmann, Jo Ann Phelps, Tanya Sisk, John Kennedy and Jane Hellrung

Ushers are needed for all months. Please volunteer. See Marj Bryant

COMMUNION SERVERS

August 17 Chance Shewmake, Chr.,

Jerry Wray, Debbie Wallace

John Kennedy (set up & serve)

September 7 - Lyndal Colburn, Chr.,

Kathy Steinmann, Nancy Bailey,

Sandy Krug, Katy Jarman,

Tanya Sisk (set-up & serve)

ATTENDANCE

6/22 - 33, 6/29 - 52, 7/6 - 50, 7/13 - 43,

7/20 - 50, 7/27 - 42, 8/3 - 37

BIRTHDAYS

August

3..... Zachary Bryant

Sandy Krug

Maddie Meyer

4..... Brandon Medlock

6..... Andy Hruby

Sara Keene

7..... Timothy Shewmake

Rev. Ken DeWall

9..... Maggie Paddock

10..... Michael Wyatt

11..... Mary Cordes

14..... Carol Jo Domescik

15..... Dwight Gross

Mark Springgate

17..... Marguerite Crowson

Erin Oxford

26..... Willanette Ball

28..... Kayla Wray

30..... Sarah Wyatt Kirkpatrick

September

4..... Al Wallace

8..... Kristin Stone

10..... Mark Stone

11..... Tyler Trusty

14..... Jacob Hruby

16..... William Stone

If I have missed your birthday, I'm truly sorry. I hope it was a good one. Please, let me know when it was. Marj Bryant

ADDRESSES

J. Evert Kingery
1201 Hartman Lane, Apt. 221
Shiloh, IL 62221
Phone # 618-239-3564

CRISIS FOOD CENTER REPORT

ESPC took 93 items to the Crisis Food Center in June and July. In August we're having a:

***CRISIS FOOD CENTER
FOOD COLLECTION***

"I was hungry and you fed me."

Matthew 25:35

August 3 through August 31, 2008

Brown paper bags were given out on

Sunday, August 3, 2008

to be returned full by August 31, 2008.

Non-perishable items, canned goods, etc.

Let us help feed the people in need.

Use can use your own brown grocery bags and other donations beside what are on the list are acceptable.

In July the Crisis Food Center provided food for 799 families a very busy month. In July 2007 they served 768 families and in July 2006 they served 544 families. In just two years the number of families seeking food assistance from the center in July has increased by 255 families. The Center appreciates all we do to help feed the people in need.

DINNERS FOR EIGHT

As we reflect upon the 2007-08 "Dinner For Eight" gatherings, it was a time of great food but even greater was the goal of fellowship that came to fruition. The four Alton Presbyterian Church communities appealed to participants from each congregation to socialize in one another's homes and have the opportunity to get to know one another. God created us as gregarious beings and encourages us to "step out of the box" and our "comfort zones" in order to reach out to others. Often we tend to hesitate and question how comfortable we may feel with people we do not know. In looking back on our

experience with parishioners from College, First, and Twelfth Street Presbyterian Churches, we can gladly state the goal of fellowship with a sense of real kindred spirit was met. In representing Elm Street Presbyterian Church, we felt the "Dinners for Eight" was a huge success and in our estimation, a very worthwhile cause. ***John Kennedy and Jane Hellrung***

DEACONS REPORT

Donations to the Deacon's Fund had been way down and they had been unable to help as many of those needing help as they had in the past. They are asking you to continue using your green Deacon Fund envelope (found in with your pledge envelopes) as often as you can. The Love Fund has not been used lately so it has money in it. **They also are still collecting empty ink-jet cartridges with printer heads,** don't forget to bring your empty ones in. Because of the Spaghetti Supper and your generous donations, the Deacons have been able to help many with their utility bills, etc. this past month.

SESSION INFORMATION

The Session met May 27, 2008 with Rev Will Mason as Moderator.

The Session approved the following:

1. The minutes of the previous meeting.
 2. Closing the office on August 21, 2008 to attend the Presbytery meeting
 3. The treasurer's report.
 4. Marj Bryant to attend an APA conference on September 12, 2008 in St. Louis.
 5. Jerry Wray as ministry contact while Rev. Mason is on vacation.
 6. Use of the CE Building Fellowship Hall by the Girl Scout Leaders on the fourth Thursday of the month from August 2008 through May 2009 and the Professional Business Women's group for a Political Town Hall Forum with representatives from both parties involved in September
 7. The report on the Mission Study Team
- The Mission Study Team met for the first time on 7/22/08. The Team is comprised**

of Richard Sisk, Ann McLaughlin, Jean Bryant, Bill Bott, Sandy Krug and Mary Cordes. Richard Sisk was elected Moderator. Ann McLaughlin was elected Vice Moderator. They will be developing a questionnaire for members of ESPC to tell the MST what you, as members, would like to see for the future of Elm St. The questionnaire will be coming to you in the mail in August.

The Alton-Godfrey Parish's Third Hurricane Katrina Volunteer Work Team is being formed. The dates are October 25 thru November 1, 2008. They will be traveling to Olive Tree Volunteer Village located near New Orleans, LA. Skilled and Unskilled Workers are both needed. They will take a team of 25 and each one is responsible for their own meals and lodging while there. Expense is \$20.00 per day plus travel (gas and food). See Marj if any questions or contact Sheila Wilkie at 372-8895 or Kay Gunning at 372-4133. The deadline for signing up is September 16, 2008

The Presbytery has a Need for Volunteer Assistance. It is their goal to find willing men and women who would donate some of their time to the ministry of the presbytery in ways that would be enriching and fulfilling as a part of volunteer service. Areas of volunteerism include: hospitality at the presbytery center, assistance in operations (mailings & distributions), assistance with registration at presbytery meetings, assistance in the Resource Center or at Mound Ridge. Already many folks are sharing their gifts but they could use more! Pat Cook, our Volunteer Coordinator is willing to train volunteers and help them find their niche of service. With the cost of gas, we also promise to be good stewards about a person's availability. See Marj for more information or call Judy Pickett at the presbytery office 877-772-2395 Ext.112

Presbytery is looking for stories of God's Grace working in your life, but that Grace was not recognized until hours, days, months or even years later.

Guidelines:

- Stories should be 500 words or less; however do not let that stop you. The editors can expand or decrease the number of words.
- Stories must be non-fiction.
- We reserve editorial rights for all stories.
- If you have a story to tell but do not want to write it, a personal interview can be arranged by contacting Cindy Corley at 877-772-2395 Ext. 100.

Mail submissions to The Resource Center at the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy 2236 Tower Grove Ave. St. Louis, MO 63110 or email as a Word document attachment to ccorley@glpby.org. The deadline is November 1, 2008. They will be put in a book. See Marj for more information.

HELP NEEDED

A volunteer or two to help JoAnn Phelps clean the Nursery.

3 or 4 volunteers to provide the Salvation Army Dinner on Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008
Contact Jo Ann Phelps if you can do either.

UPCOMING EVENTS

On Sunday, August 17, 2008 during the worship service we will have the Blessing of the Backpacks.

Worship Committee Meeting on Friday, August 22, 2008 at 7:00 pm

Sunday, August 31, 2008

Hymn Sunday

It will have a Hawaiian Theme.

Everyone is asked to wear their Hawaiian outfits or bright flowery blouses or shirts, and your thongs (flip flops)

After worship during coffee hour the

Worship Committee will have an Ice Cream Social for the congregation.

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 7, 2008 for all ages at 9:15 am.

Annual Golf Scramble

Sunday, September 14, 2008 1:00 pm
At Rolling Hills Golf Course

With a potluck to follow the scramble.
Open to Alton-Godfrey Parish Churches

ENCOUNTER Last Performances of 2008
August 10 - 4:30 & 7:00 pm Main St. United
Methodist Church - Alton

Over 55 -

September 11, Thursday - Trip on the River. We will leave CAPC at 8:00 am for a 9:00 am arrival in St. Louis to board a bus for Kimmswick arriving at 10:00 am to shop. At 11:00 am we will have lunch at the Blue Owl Restaurant. At 1:00 pm we will board a bus to go down to the river where we will board the Tom Sawyer to set sail for St. Louis, arriving there at 5:00 pm. There we will board the bus for Alton. All inclusive price is \$72.00.

Reservation Deadline is August 29, 2008, absolutely no exceptions!

October 15 and 16, 2008- an overnight trip to New Harmony, IN Leave CAPC at 8:00 am:

Double Occupancy - \$202.00,

Single Occupancy - \$251.00

The two lunch meals will be on our own. Room, Breakfast, Dinner, Other Fees and Bus included in the price.

November 11, Tuesday Savor St. Louis Tour

December 10, Wednesday- Tour of Conoco Phillips Wood River Refinery, their History Museum and be their guests for lunch in the company cafeteria.

December 28, 2008, Sunday - Fox Theatre to see the Rockettes

February 27, 2009 - St. Louis Symphony Coffee Concert

March 13, 2009 - Gilbert and Sullivan's Pirates of the Penzance at the Touhill

Vacation Bible School

"RAINFOREST ADVENTURE"

was held at First Presbyterian Church in July with 53 different students enrolled and an average daily attendance of 34.

Each evening the youth were given a different rainforest critter with the days theme written on it, a skit was presented each evening, lots of fun crafts were made and lots of neat snacks were enjoyed by all. At the end of the week the youth sang the songs they learned for their parents with a potluck following. They collected 302 items during the week for the Crisis Food Center.

"Hymns For Us Older Folks!"

Precious Lord, Take My Hand and Help Me Up
It Is Well with My Soul, but My Knees Hurt
Nobody Knows the Trouble I Have Seeing
Just A Slower Walk with Thee
Count Your Many Birthdays Name Them One
By One
Go Tell It On the Mountain, but Speak Up
Give Me the Old Timer's Religion
Blessed Insurance
Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah for I've
Forgotten Where I Parked

Submitted by Patti Marcum

A Little Wit

I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger.
The it hit me.

Police were called to a day care where a three-year old was resisting a rest.

To write with a broken pencil is pointless.

A bicycle can't stand alone: it is two tired.

For your Sunday Bulletin or newsletter

2008 KATRINA MISSION COMMITMENT OF _____

Being called to serve those in need, I commit to support the 2008 Katrina Mission trip to New Orleans, Louisiana from October 25 – November 1, 2008 in the following way:

- _____ 1. I can make the trip and I am a _____ skilled, _____ unskilled worker.
(Sign up by September 16, 2008)
- _____ 2. I want more information. Call me at _____.
- _____ 3. I cannot make the trip but I can donate money to help with expenses for those who can go.*
- _____ 4. I can drive my car or van and offer transportation to workers while there.*
- _____ 5. I WILL KEEP THE PROJECT AND THOSE WHO GO IN MY PRAYERS.

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- * EXPENSE is \$20/day for room and board + travel (gas and food).
DONATIONS – Make your check out to College Avenue Presbyterian Church for “Katrina Mission” and put it in the collection plate or mail to the church office.

THANKS FOR REACHING OUT TO KATRINA VICTIMS!!!

AUGUST 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 10:15 Prayer 10:45 am Worship- Rev. Mason on vacation this week	4 7 pm Outreach Comm. Mtg. 8 pm AA/Al Anon	5	6 6pm- Beverly farms- Jerry Wray 7 pm Boy Scout T-7	7	8	9
10 10-15 Prayer Service 10:45 Worship	11 8 pm AA/Al Anon	12	13 7 pm Boy Scout T - 7 Rev Mason returns from vacation	14	15	16
17 10:15 Prayer 10:45 am Worship- Communion Blessing of the Backpacks	18 8 pm AA/Al Anon	19	20 7 pm Boy Scout T-7	21 Presbytery Mtg. Farmington MO	22 7 pm Worship Committee mtg.	23
24 10-15 Prayer 10:45	25 8 pm AA/Al Anon	26 7pm Session	27 7 pm Boy Scout T - 7	28	29	30
31 10-15 Prayer 10:45 Worship Hymn Sunday Hawaiian Theme Ice Cream Social	SEPTMBER 1 Labor Day Office closed 8 pm AA/Al Anon	2	3 6pm- Beverly farms- Jerry Wray 7 pm Boy Scouts meet	4 7 pm Choir Practice	5	6

Elm Leaf Prayer Concerns - August 2008

"Members"

Esther & Bill Bott
Florence & Dan Earnhardt
Nellie Smithee
Evert Kingery
Jeannette Greene
Richard & Sonia Hetge
Emily Paddock
Mildred Maguire
Lois Mitchell

"In The Nursing Home"

Pat Gross.....Willow Rose
Lorene Peterson... St. Patrick's Residence
Clarabel Park.....Royal Oak Care Ctr.
Gladys Chappée..... Eunice Smith Nsg. Home
Marjorie Johnson... White Hall Nsg & Rehab Ctr.
Willanette Ball.....Methodist Village
Ruth Wilson.....The Fountains
Helen Foster.....The Fountains
Gertrude Haynes.....The Fountains
Jean Freer...Eunice Smith Nsg Home

Relatives and Friends of ESPC

Gertrude Smith, Hazel Morgan.....John Kennedy
Betty Bishop, Mary Calendar.....Chance Shewmake & Katy Jarman
Mary Kathryn & Marcia Slifka.....Chance Shewmake & Katy Jarman
Dorothy Crabtree.....Bill Stone and Louise Norman's sister
Anna Hopkins.....Kathy Steinmann
Carol Jo & Don Domescik, Helen Waggoner.....Carole Springgate
Mary Prosser, Mary Kay & Joe Ryan, Martha Fleming.....Jane Hellrung
Linda Baze, Ann Slaughter.....Stolze's
Rose Ann Stice & Bill Dieu.....Bill Stone
Carol Wagner.....Sandy Krug
Ann Schubert.....Ann McLaughlin
Jackie Ahart.....Karen Auston
Barb Roth.....The Bryant Family
Glenna Pickett & Daniel Dix.....Debbie Wallace
Margo & Robert Greenwell.....Debbie Wallace
Debbie Davis.....The Wrays
Deb & Paul McMahon.....Willa Humenick
Kathie Rain
Debbie Krug.....Sandy's daughter-in-law
Betty Mason.....Rev. Mason's mother
Dylan Ross.....Terry Shewmake

First PC - Grace Summers, Dick & Liz Johnson, Debbie Gates, Tony Ingles, Jim Johnson,
Charlene Hamilton, Hannah Burford, Jack Maloney

***If you know of anyone that can be taken off of the prayer list,
please call the church office and let us know.***