

Message from the Pastor

I have a friend, the Rev. Jill Duffield, who is the editor of the Presbyterian Outlook magazine. This week she writes about Christ the King Sunday, Nov. 24, and I just wanted to share this with you:

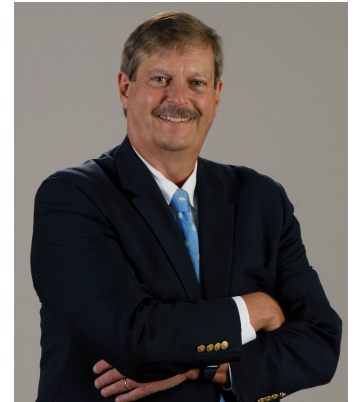
“Christ the King Sunday bridges Ordinary Time and Advent, inviting us to shift our attention to preparation for the Incarnation, even as the retail machine already is shoving us headlong into Christmas.”

“This Sunday also kicks off the week of Thanksgiving, with many in the pews focused on company coming or travel looming. For many, the reign of our Lord is not on the top of our minds as we consider all the other issues and tasks barreling towards us this week. Some of us worry about the non-stop news of impeachment hearings hijacking any hope of a peaceful family gathering. Others wonder if they will be

alone on a day billed as being all about family and friends. Overflowing tables and endless calls to purchase Christmas gifts cast in stark relief for many of our neighbors the growing divide between the rich and the impoverished. The cultural shift toward the holidays is in full swing, and subsequently few will come to worship expecting to hear Jesus' Passion narrative this time of year. Everything about this liturgical emphasis on kingship and crucifixion feels off in a world awash in turkeys and tinsel...”

However, she goes on:

“Jesus will be raised and sit at the right hand of God. Jesus will defeat death, conquer sin and save the world not through military might and worldly wealth but through vulnerable, sacrificial love. Those of us who know this ultimate truth are to proclaim



this to all the other powers fighting to reign in our hearts and in the world. Jesus reigns in cellblocks of convicted criminals, calling for repentance and offering forgiveness. Jesus, refugee and asylum seeker himself, reigns for those who have no home, promising that none other than God prepares a place for them. Jesus rules in government offices and on

(continued page 3)

Scripture of the Month — 2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

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Special dates of interest:

- Tree Lighting on Lawn—Dec. 1
- PW Cookie Swap—Dec. 2
- Soup Kitchen—Dec. 2 thru 6
- Services of Music—Dec. 3 & 10 & 17
- Advent Worship Service—Dec. 4
- Cornerstone Christmas Brunch—Dec. 5
- Happy Birthday Jesus Party—Dec. 7
- Advent Cantata—Dec. 8
- Room in the Inn—Dec. 10 & 22
- Children's Christmas Program—Dec. 11
- Denmark Christmas Program—Dec. 13
- Church Wide Caroling—Dec. 15
- Deadline for Poinsettia & Joy Gift Card Donations—Dec. 18
- Joy Gift Offering—Dec. 22
- Meals on Wheels—Dec. 24
- Christmas Eve Services—Dec. 24
- Merry Christmas Day! - Dec. 25



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SESSION

Class of 2019

Leigh Anne Bentley
Tammy B. Anderson
Bryan Byrd
James Harris
Carol Sue Keathley
Justin Smith

Class of 2020

Benita Brown
David Greene
Russell Jones
Stacey McAdams
Kevin Pauley
Stephannie Williams

Class of 2021

Greg Abbott
Barry Broughton
Russell Cook
Debbie Hurt
Mary Jane McWherter
Patty Smith

OUR VISION

First Presbyterian Church is called to be a faithful and inclusive congregation which enthusiastically glorifies God in our worship, education, nurture and service through the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Room in the Inn 2019-2020



Room in the Inn

**ROOM IN THE INN
HELPING THE HOMELESS
FOR THIRTEEN YEARS**

Our church will participate in Jackson's ROOM IN THE INN program for the Thirteenth consecutive winter. This program, operated by Area Relief Ministries (ARM), provides food and shelter for the city's homeless men. We have agreed to provide this service on twelve separate dates during the upcoming winter season. ROOM IN THE INN fulfills a need for a local homeless shelter that is not provided by any other agency.

We pick up the men from Area Relief Ministries at 5:30 PM using the church bus, and immediately bring them to the church Fellowship hall for a delicious meal. Adult Sunday school classes and our church youth volunteer to provide the evening meal and fellowship for the men. **We ask that all food arrive at the church by 5:00 PM.** Following the meal, the men go to the gym where they will set up their cots. Blankets, towels, and toiletries are provided. They may watch a movie, take a shower, play basketball, or simply go to sleep in a warm place. In the morning they are given a hot breakfast along with extra food items for lunch and then delivered back to ARM or their place of employment.

Following are the dates and assignments for First Presbyterian Church this winter:

Tuesday, November 12 – Fellowship Class
Tuesday, November 26 – Connections Class
Tuesday, December 10 – Seekers Class
Sunday, December 22 – Church Wide*
Tuesday, January 14 – Fellowship Class
Tuesday, January 28 – Connections Class
Sunday, February 9 – Youth
Tuesday, February 25 – Directions Class
Tuesday, March 10 – Swaim Class
Tuesday, March 24 – Mayo Class
Tuesday, April 14 – Fellowship Class
Sunday, April 26 – Youth

*will accept money, food or volunteers from church membership not involved in a Sunday School Class but who wish to help in this Church Mission.



GLOVE, HAT, SCARF AND SOCK TREE! The children of Rotation Sunday School are once again sponsoring the Glove, Hat, Scarf and Sock tree for the men of Room in the Inn. During the month of December, please bring new MEN'S socks, gloves, hats and scarves and hang them on the Christmas trees in the Fellowship Hall. Thank You!

Lectionary Readings for December 2019

**December 1- Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44**

**December 8- Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19;
Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12**

**December 15- Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55;
James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11**

**December 22 Isaiah 7: 10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19;
Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25**

**December 29 Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrew 2:10-18;
Matthew 2:13-23**

Wednesdays at First



Join us Wednesday nights for fun, good food, and informative programming. Dinner is at 5:00 PM, with special programming at 6 PM. There are separate activities for the Youth and for our younger friends at **Launch Pad Kids** and **Blast!**, while the adults are involved in their activity. A nursery is also provided.

We are winding down for the year.....to resume after the holidays in January! Mark your calendars for January 8!

- Dec 4—** MENU: Pork Loin with gravy, Apply Celery Salad, Scalloped Potatoes, Vegetable Medley, Sliced Bread, and Cheesecake for dessert.
PROGRAM: Advent Worship Service ~ *Service of Anticipation*
- Dec 11—** MENU: Poppyseed Chicken Casserole, Strawberry Salad, Squash & Onions, Sautéed Green Beans, Yeast Rolls, and Sweet Potato Pie for dessert.
PROGRAM: Children's Christmas Program

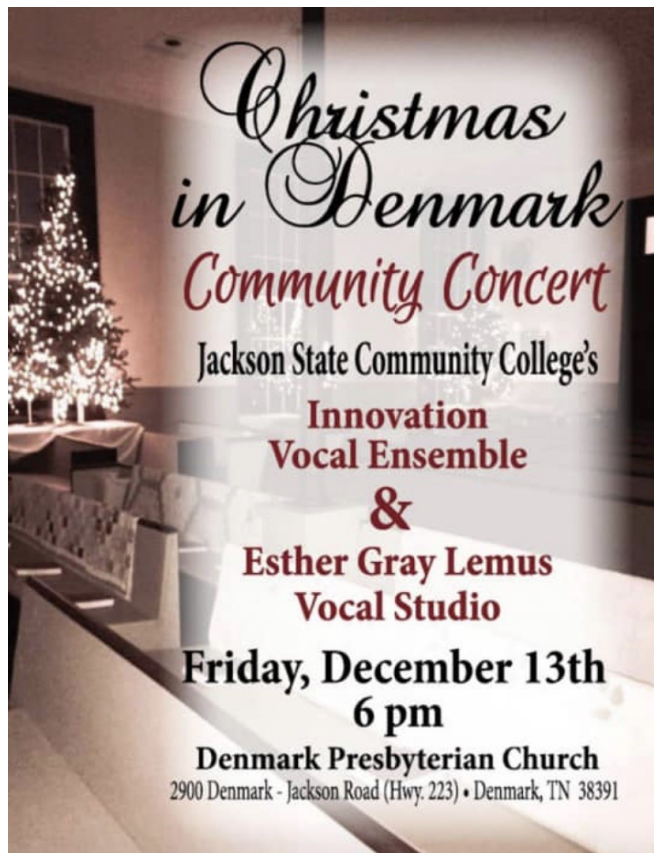
All meals include Bread, Salad, Fresh Fruit, Beverages (tea, lemonade, coffee or water), and "Kids' Foods". Children's menu will vary weekly, but will be kid-friendly foods. Juice boxes and milk provided. Peanut butter, jelly and bread is always available for our more selective eaters.

Reservations required in church office by Monday at 4 PM (422-1591).

Cost: \$7 for adults, including children over age 12, \$5 for children ages 3-12, with a \$20 max per family.

Reminder: Take outs cost \$1 more for each meal, to help cover the cost of the extra packaging!

Wednesday Night Dinners will resume January 8 with the Renewal of Baptism Service. Enjoy your Christmas holiday and New Year's, and mark your calendars to join us for our first night back in 2020!



JOIN US TO CELEBRATE & FELLOWSHIP!

Cornerstone Annual Holiday Brunch

December 5, 2019

Make your plans now to join us for our **Holiday Brunch** on **Thursday, December 5 at 11:30 AM** in Memorial Hall! There is no charge.....this is our Christmas Gift to you!

Everyone welcome! We hope you can attend.

Please make a reservation by calling the church office @ 422-1591.

...from the pastor (continued)

the streets with protestors, urging all to see in one another the image of God, to know of God's desire for justice and to participate in the inevitability of its coming. Jesus is Lord in those places of great abundance and those of soul crushing scarcity, calling on people to work to make sure everyone has enough. Jesus reigns in us when we seek his kingdom first, that kingdom of light where darkness no longer rules."

What a powerful, joyful reminder of the transformative presence of Jesus Christ. I pray we are all touched by it this season!



PW of First Presbyterian

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

NO CT MEETING IN DECEMBER!



Homemade Cookie Swap – December 2 at 10 AM!

Please join us for our
Homemade Christmas
Cookie Swap—**December
2 at 10 AM** in the Fellow-

ship Hall for swapping cookies, filling
tins for our Friends at Home, enjoying
fellowship with each other, and listening to
the precious Preschool children sing at
10:30 AM. **Please bring 4 doz cookies** to
swap and share with our Friends at Home.
Volunteers needed to help deliver the
cookie tins!

Circle meetings in December

Morning Circles: December 9 @ 11 AM
Abigail— Christmas Luncheon
meets with Jenny Craig,
64 Stonehaven Circle, 668-1452

Baara— NO December meeting

Evening Circle: December 9 @ 7 PM
Deborah— Ornament Exchange
meets with Nelda Evans,
9 Ridgewood Cove, 668-9487

TO ALL LADIES OF THE CHURCH!! All are welcome!

Please contact Vivian Pauley 506-5545
or Kathy House 423-1065 if you would
like to participate in a Circle/Bible Study,
volunteer for a PW service project, be part

of the PW Prayer Chain, or learn more
about PW.

Service Opportunities:

RIFA Soup Kitchen —(Desserts)

December 1—Baara

January 2, 2020—Deborah

Helping Hands: meets on Monday,
but no Helping hands on 12/2. Will meet
again on January 6, 2020.

Helping Hands makes whatever the
community is in need of. Two current
projects involve walker bags and bibs for
local nursing homes, and girls' dresses
and boys' shorts for Jan Crossett to
distribute on her world mission trips with
Compassion International.

Threads of Love: meets on Tuesday,
and WILL meet on 12/10, and again on
Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

Threads of Love makes burial gowns,
blankets and hats for families who have
an infant death at the local hospital.

PW Missions Day makes *discharge
packets* (100 per year). Discharge
packets are layette packets that include a
blanket, gown, onesie, and hat. They are
given to mothers in need to take their
newborn home in when discharged from
the hospital.

Used Eyeglasses for Guatemala: PW
collects used eyeglasses for Mark Harris
to take overseas on a mission project
in cooperation with Cumberland
Presbyterian Church.

MEN' S TUESDAY COFFEE GROUP

9:00 AM
**Sun Parlor,
Memorial Hall**



Our Men's Coffee Group is GROWING!
If you would like free coffee and free
food, as well as great fellowship and
lively conversation, why don't you come
and join us? It's casual - we gather at
9 AM and finish up about 10 AM-ish....
and you are welcome to come and go as
needed. We would love to have you join
us! Just show up on Tuesday morning!

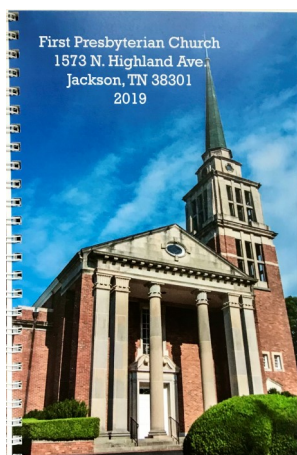


**NO January newsletter
Deadline for February
edition of newsletter**

January 18, 2020

Happy New Year!

New Directories are Here!



The new FPC Lifetouch pictorial directories have arrived!

You may pick yours up at church on Sunday or Wednesday from
Jennifer Flanagan.

As a reminder, if you had your picture made or submitted a picture,
you may receive one directory per family.

Also, we now have the option of a password protected **Mobile
Directory** for your mobile phone or other electronic device. For
security purposes, we will not be sending the Access Code out
electronically, but you can get the code from any FPC church staff
member. You can download the mobile directory on the FPC website,
on the mobile app, or on the web by using this link:

<https://mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/382610/first-presbyterian-church>



Membership Corner

**“In Christ, we who are many form one body,
and each member belongs to all the others.” Romans 12:5**

Welcome New Members!



Jerry and Patti Thomas

*joined by Reaffirmation of Faith
November 24, 2019*

21 Dayton Cove
Jackson, TN 38305



CONGRATULATIONS!

**Wade & Adriana Thomson
are the proud parents
of a new baby boy!**

**REAGAN ALEXANDER
SUBIA THOMSON
was born November 4, 2019!**

AMAZON SMILE

A new and easy way to give to FPC!

Shop at: www.smile.amazon.com

The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your purchase price on eligible products to FPC. On your first visit to Amazon Smile, you can select First Presbyterian Church Jackson TN and then start shopping.



Tuesday Community Services of Music

**Join us each Tuesday
at Noon for a
Service of Music
and light lunch.**

**December 3
First United
Methodist Church**

**December 10
St. Luke's Episcopal
Church**

**December 17
First Presbyterian
Church**



'Tis the Season to...

invite friends and family to FPC.

The Membership Committee wishes to encourage the Congregation to invite friends and family to FPC for some of our many Advent events. They also have a Christmas gift for the Congregation to help promote FPC in the community by displaying this magnet on your car. You may stop by the church office to pick up your car magnet.

Christmas Season Events at FPC



AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF JACKSON

Advent Worship

"SERVICE OF ANTICIPATION"

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH - 6:00 PM

Christmas Cantata

"HOME BY ANOTHER WAY"

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH - 9:30 AM

FEATURING THE FPC CHANCEL CHOIR,
CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND
MADISON ACADEMIC FIRST CLASS

Children's Christmas Program

"IT'S A PARADE"

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH - 6:00 PM

Service of Music

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

11:45 AM - CARILLON CONCERT

12:00 PM - TERE ERVIN, FLUTE &

DR. TERRY MCROBERTS, PIANO

12:30 PM - LIGHT LUNCH

Christmas Eve Services

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

5:00 PM - CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

11:00 PM - COMMUNION SERVICE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF JACKSON
fpcjacksontn.org

1573 N. Highland Ave.
Jackson, TN 38301

Playschool News



Over the years we have shared with you some of the things we think make Playschool a truly special place. We fill Playschool with love for every child, knowing each one is made in the image of God. Every year we marvel at the growth and learning each child accomplishes; we are so proud of them. I began thinking about all of this again after I saw a poster of the upcoming movie about the life of Mr. Rogers. Mr. Rogers had two guiding principles about children. He always made sure to tell them he loved them “just the way you are.” He also believed deeply in telling everyone “I’m proud of you.”

I think First Presbyterian Playschool would be a place Mr. Rogers would be proud of and that makes my heart happy and proud.

Our teachers are the heart of Playschool and I think they embody what Mr. Rogers meant when he said, ““We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It’s easy to say, ‘It’s not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.’ Then there are those who see the need and respond, I consider those people my heroes.”

Our teachers have the gift of being able to love others’ children as their own and they have embraced sharing that gift at Playschool.

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary!



Birthday blessings to the following members who celebrate their special day this month!

12/02	Ray Tanner	12/17	Ava Marie Cox	12/30	Anna Leigh Byrd
12/03	Graylynn Richardson	12/17	Mo Pledger	12/30	Ayden Johnson
12/04	Scherry Priddy	12/17	Vance Shoaf	12/31	Maddy McKissack
12/05	Ken Keim	12/18	Lucy Taylor		
12/05	Janice Webster	12/18	Don Thomson		
12/06	John Anderson	12/19	James Taylor		
12/06	Gioia Carp	12/21	Steve Bowers	12/08	Jimmy and Lynn East
12/07	Jennifer Flanagan	12/21	Alexandra Harris	12/18	John and Jezel Ross
12/07	Carl Vesper	12/21	Tamara Haynes	12/18	John and Susannah White
12/08	Julia Austin	12/22	Wade Thomson IV	12/21	Don and Kay Thomson
12/08	Alex Jones	12/23	Kathleen Ewen	12/22	Gordon and Kristen White
12/12	Gary Nelson	12/25	Anita Callis	12/28	James and Sharon Hill
12/13	Tammy Buchanan-Anderson	12/25	Jezel Ross	12/29	Wade and Adriana Thomson
12/14	Miranda Harbin	12/27	Martha Stockard	12/30	Jim and Becky McKissack
12/15	Tom Strawn	12/29	Emily Smith	12/30	Ted and Sylvia Showalter
12/16	James McKissack	12/29	Georgia Wellborn		

Happy Anniversary!

Please let the church office know your birthday and anniversary! If your December birthday or anniversary is not listed, we don't have it on record in the church office. We don't wish to miss anyone and would appreciate you calling the office (422-1591).

Prayer Concerns



PRAYER PROGRAM

Each week we randomly select individuals or families for whom we encourage everyone to pray. During the coming weeks, please pray for:

December 1 ~ Bruce and Judy Herron; Georgia Wellborn; Blake and Tammy Anderson

December 8 ~ Michael and Mary Jane McWherter; George and Paula Moschovas; Charles and Tisha Blankenship

December 15 ~ Charles and Marilyn Ames; Drew and Allison Moore & Ayden; Florence Bridges

December 22 ~ Greg and Jennifer Flanagan; Bill and Sandra Dellastatious; Jimmy and Lynn East

December 29 ~ Diane Sklensky; David and Sharon Keen, Logan & Mason; Ray and Kakky Tanner

IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY: *The Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Martha Stockard, Lark Taylor and families, upon the death of Laura Wooten on October 27, 2019; to Greg Abbott and family upon the recent death of Myra Deal.*

IN REMEMBRANCE: *John Singleton—Due to an oversight, we neglected to list his name in the November newsletter in honor of All Saints Day, and sincerely apologize for the omission.*

ASSISTED & EXTENDED CARE

Transitional Care

Tisha Blankenship, #A204

Jackson Meadows

Bill Dellastatious, #234

Brookdale Jackson Oaks

Helen Johnson, #D65

Betty Stewart, #M8

Dolly Mathis, #M32

Judi Wilson, #E85

Regency Retirement Village

Martha Stockard, #129A

Elmcroft

Bob Elam, #215

Northbrooke

Martha Hanserd, #16B

Rosemary Kipp Monegue, #204

Morningside of Jackson

Dorothy Prince (Carol Whitnall's mother)

Sid Spragins
Lisa Marcom
Rich McCune
Mandy Little
Charlie and Suzy Collins
Sylvia Showalter
Betsy Cox
Susan Blackmon
William Dabney & family
Phillip Pickens
Brenda Welling's father
Florence Bridges
Eloise Phillips
Debbie Lee (Lori Howell family)
Kay Engle Medlin (Judy Herron family)
Anne Garrard
Judy Harber
Marilynn Ames
Patricia White
John and Susan Anderson
Kathy Whitener
Richard and Liz Swaim
James Hargrove (Lori Howell's uncle)
Anderson Presbyterian Church
Cancer patients on our hearts
Mission Partners in Asia
Mission Partners in Peru
Search Committee & Search Process
Unspoken prayer requests

*We are united in the Spirit when we pray
for our brothers & sisters in Christ in our
Presbytery and around the world. This
month please pray for:*

First Presbyterian Church, Clarkton, MO
Cistern Project/
Clear Water for the World
First Presbyterian Church, Kennett, MO
The Presbyterian Church USA/Missions
Human Rights
New Hope Presbyterian, McKenzie, TN
Peace & Healing



YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS

The general rule is that a contribution is effective when delivered. This means that a check deposited in the collection plate in January 2020 cannot be deducted in 2019, even if it is back-dated to 2019.

ONE EXCEPTION: checks that are mailed and postmarked in 2019 are deductible for 2019 even if the church does not receive them until 2020.

Please plan your contributions accordingly.

The Church Offices

**will be closed
for the holidays...**

**Noon on December 24
December 25
December 26
January 1, 2020**

The Magic of
Christmas
is not in the presents
but in *His*
presence

PRAYER CONCERNS

Claircy Purinton
John and Susannah White
Jean Wilson
James Harris
Bo Scarborough
Tom Garner
Kay Davis
Bobby Benson
Mike & Christie Martin & family
Barbara Johnson
Carrol Moss
Jim Marple
Marvin Morton
Ron Taylor

Advent Cantata – Dec 8th



Christmas Cantata

Home By Another Way

FPC Chancel Choir will be joined by the Madison Academic First Class, directed by Lindsey Patterson.
Emma Otto, Violinist & Terry McRoberts, Organ and Piano
Helen Redding, Director

**DECEMBER 8TH
9:30 AM**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1573 N. HIGHLAND AVE.
JACKSON, TN 38301**



Poinsettia Decoration Fund 2019



If you would like to donate to our sanctuary **Poinsettia Christmas Decoration Fund** in memory of or in honor of someone this Christmas, your contribution can be sent to the church office or dropped in the offering plate any time before December 18th. Names will appear in bulletin on Dec. 22nd.

(Funds received in excess of our Poinsettia decorations will be used to purchase flowers for the Sanctuary for Sunday worship.)

Please make your check payable to
"First Presbyterian Church"
and in the memo line indicate "Poinsettia Fund".

Fill out the form below to include with your check.

~~~~~

I would like to make a donation  
to the Poinsettia Christmas Decoration Fund.

(please print as you would have it appear)

☐ In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

☐ In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

## Opportunities for Service this Christmas Season!

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN SOUP KITCHEN DATES

**Monday thru Friday,  
December 2—6, 2019**  
Mark your calendars  
now for these dates!

**A sign up board is now available  
in the Fellowship Hall.**

**This is always a popular Service event  
during the holiday season.**

**We will need volunteers each day for  
two shifts:**

**8:30 AM—10:30 AM (prep) and 10:30  
AM—1:00 PM to serve.**

**Grab a friend, or two,  
and make plans to help!**

### MEALS ON WHEELS Tuesday, DECEMBER 24!

Sign up to volunteer to deliver meals **Christmas Eve morning**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 AM and Pat Dollar will distribute maps & information to deliver Meals on Wheels. Also, you may contribute to the cost of the meals at \$6.00 per meal. Make your check payable to FPC and put "Meals on Wheels" on the Memo line.

**The signup sheet** can be found in the Fellowship Hall.

### SPONSOR A FOSTER CHILD FOR CHRISTMAS!

Each year we receive a list of Department of Children's Service Foster Children or children they serve to distribute to the Sunday School classes and individuals who want to brighten the Christmas of a less fortunate child during the holidays. We received our list of **50 children and have started passing out the lists**. If you would like to be a blessing to a child, or two, this Christmas, please contact Polly Pledger 660-6091, or Stephannie Williams 660-1297, or call the church office at 422-1591.

**The deadline for gifts is December 15!**

# Rotation Sunday School



| Rotation Story:                                 | Week 1:      | Week 2:      | Week 3:                      | Week 4:                      | Week 5:        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Advent:<br/>The Wise Still<br/>Seek Him!</b> | Nov 24       | Dec 1        | Dec 8                        | Dec 15                       | Dec 22         |
| K-2<br>3-5                                      | Games<br>Art | Art<br>Games | Story-<br>telling<br>Cooking | Cooking<br>Story-<br>telling | Video<br>Video |

**MEMORY VERSE:** Isaiah 60:1  
*"Arise, shine, for your light has come."*

**OUR CHILDREN LOVE IT!** Many thanks to all the people who have volunteered to help teach our Advent rotation, including Libby Reynolds, Allison Moore, Linsey Pickens and Sharyn Thompson.

**Mary and Martha's Kitchen (Cooking):** Children will make star cookies.  
**Focus:** The star's light guided the wise men. What light guides us?

**"And God Created..." (Art):** Children will make a star craft for our shut-ins.  
**Focus:** The wise men brought gifts. What gifts can we bring?

**The Synagogue School (Storytelling, Bible Skills, Games and Music):** Children will play an action multiple choice game.  
**Focus:** To help the children remember the details of the magi story.

**The First Century Cinema (Video):** Children will watch the movie "Jacob's Gift".  
**Focus:** The wise men brought gifts to Jesus. What gifts can we bring?

**The Synagogue School (Storytelling, Bible Skills, Games and Music):** Children will hear the Fourth Wise man story.  
**Focus:** The wise men brought gifts to Jesus. What gifts can we bring?





## The Children's Corner



**Grow, Proclaim, Serve!**  
**Growing our Faith by Leaps and Bounds!**



Ms. Laura Ms. Ellen Ms. Libby Ms. Lindsey

**Children Are A Gift From God!**



**PLAN TO JOIN US!**  
**It's always a fun time!**

**Christmas Caroling**  
**Brookdale Retirement Center**  
**December 15, 2019**

Come to the church between 4-4:15 PM.  
We will enjoy cookies & hot chocolate,  
and will make cards for the residents of  
Brookdale. Then we will rehearse a few  
Christmas Carols to sing when we arrive  
at our destination.

We will leave the church at 5:15 PM, and  
plan to take the church bus, and cars as  
needed. We encourage our parents, as  
well as our church family and friends, to  
join us! Everyone is welcome!

**If you are unable to come early to the  
church, feel free to join us at Brookdale  
at 5:30 PM! The more the merrier!**

# Happy Birthday Jesus!

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>**  
**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH INVITES  
YOU TO JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE  
JESUS' BIRTHDAY!**

**JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST, WEAR YOUR PJ'S  
AND VISIT WITH SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS.  
BRING YOUR CAMERA FOR GREAT PHOTOS!**

**PLEASE BRING MEN'S GLOVES, HATS,  
OR SCARVES FOR ROOM IN THE INN.**

**FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN – ISAIAH 9:6**



**IT'S A PARADE!** Please join us on **Wednesday Evening, December 11th at 6 PM** for the Launch Pad and Blast Children's Christmas Program, "**It's a Parade!**" immediately following dinner (at 5 PM). Following the program, we will sing Christmas Carols together as a church family. We hope to see you there! You will receive a Christmas blessing!





## Youth News!

\*\*\*\* YOUTH CONNECTION\*\*\*\*

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT MOLLY @ [fpcmolly@eplus.net](mailto:fpcmolly@eplus.net) \*\*\*\*

\*\*\*If you would like to sign up to bring dinner on a Sunday Night Youth Connection please contact Molly @ [fpcmolly@eplus.net](mailto:fpcmolly@eplus.net)!



Molly Richardson  
Interim Youth Director

It has been a fun few weeks for the youth group! Trunk or Treat and Youth Connection has brought a lot of laughter and good times! There have been serious times as we continue to work our way through the Bible. We ended our study of Noah and are diving deep into the life of Abraham.



### Youth fundraiser Christmas tree lighting! December 1 @ 6:30 PM

Please join the youth group on the front lawn of First Presbyterian Church for our *1st Annual Christmas Tree Lighting!*

There will be caroling, s'mores and hot chocolate!

You may purchase a "light" for \$5. We will sell them again on Sunday December 1st after church.



youth  
group  
SCHEDULE

#### Important dates

NO Youth Connection on  
Dec. 1 & 29;

Dec. 22—Youth Connection Party  
Feb. 9—Room in the Inn



**FINANCIAL UPDATE – October 2019**

|                     | <u>Actual<br/>Year-to-date</u> | <u>Budget<br/>Year-to-date</u> | <u>Actual<br/>Last Yr to date</u> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2019 Pledges        | \$ 500,536                     | \$ 522,349                     | \$ 512,719                        |
| Total Contributions | \$ 565,167                     | \$ 603,983                     | \$ 566,811                        |
| Total Income        | \$ 692,027                     | \$ 754,744                     | \$ 675,893                        |
| Total Expenses      | \$ 674,118                     | \$ 754,744                     | \$ 629,327                        |
| Net Income          | \$ 17,909                      | \$ 0                           | \$ 46,566                         |

**Pledges can now be paid using ACH bank drafts on a weekly or monthly basis. If you are interested, please contact Machele Daniel-Hall at 422-1591.**

For questions or more details on the financial report, contact Carol Sue Keathley (Finance Chair), at 431-1262, Russell Cook (Treasurer) at 694-1991, or Machele Daniel-Hall (Financial Secretary) at 422-1591.

## Session Highlights

The Session of First Presbyterian Church met in its regularly stated meeting on November 10, 2019 and conducted its usual business. The Session voted to:

- approve the minutes from the Stated Meeting of October 12, 2019 and the Called Meeting of October 27, 2019;
- table the hiring of Ceil Cowles for her current position of Director of Congregational life and Website Coordinator until next meeting of Session until the committee gathers more information about how the new laws will affect FPC and checking if Ceil will be considered full-time and how this would affect benefits from the Board of Pensions of the PCUSA;
- approve the Youth request to begin a fundraiser sponsoring a bulb on a tree visible from Highland Avenue, allowing parishioners to sponsor a bulb in memory or in honor of someone;
- change the name of the line item from the Service Committee budget from Mission Trip to Mission Staff Coordinator Expenses;
- approve additional undesignated funds be allocated to preserve and bind church newsletters with \$500.00 from the undesignated memorial fund, binding 20 volumes of additional found newsletters, through Memphis book binder J&K Custom Binding. After binding this series, two volumes will be bound per year with expense to come from the Archival/Recycling Fund;
- approve receiving the Christmas Joy Offering on December 22, 2019.

All members of the Session encourage questions or comments at any time.

**NEXT SESSION MEETING**  
**December 8 @ 5 PM**  
**Dinner, and Examination of**  
**New Officers**

### WHEN MAKING PURCHASES FOR THE CHURCH:

Since FPC has a tax-exempt status, and we have a sales tax exemption number, all persons making purchases for the church should use the tax form and number when making purchases.

As part of our latest audit report, we are not to reimburse anyone for sales tax as part of a receipt/request for payment. You may get a Tax Exempt form upon request from Machele to use when buying items for the church, which should be provided to the retailer at point of sale.

*The church will no longer reimburse for sales tax paid.*



### RIFA SNACK BACKPACK ITEMS NEEDED:

- Pop-Tarts
- Ramen Noodles (chicken or beef)
- Microwave Popcorn (individually wrapped)
- Apple Sauce (with foil lids)
- Oatmeal (single serve packs)
- Chicken Noodle Soup (with pop-tops)
- Ravioli (single serve with pop-tops)
- Macaroni & Cheese (individual packets/bowls)

### ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020**  
**DURING**  
**9:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE**

**Chris Alexander**  
**Mark Harris**  
**Judy Herron**  
**Shirley Nelson**  
**Jamie Richardson**  
**Robbie Rodgers**



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF  
JACKSON, TN**

1573 N. Highland Ave.  
Jackson, TN 38301-3454

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

731.422.1591  
[www.fpcjacksontn.org](http://www.fpcjacksontn.org)

**OUR MISSION:**

First Presbyterian Church  
seeks to provide opportunities  
for people to encounter the life changing  
presence of Christ through:  
preaching, the study of scripture,  
engagement in worship, faithful stewardship  
and service to others  
in the church and community.

*If you have an article for the newsletter, please  
send it to Nelda Rhodes, Church Secretary at:  
[fpcnelda@eplus.net](mailto:fpcnelda@eplus.net). Articles will be used as  
space permits and may be edited for length.  
**Deadline for submissions are the 18th of each  
month.***

**Merry Christmas from the Staff @ FPC!**



*Wishing you  
and your  
family a  
Blessed Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year!*

*The Staff  
at FPC*