

# *The First Press*

*February 2019*



*"O sing to the LORD a  
NEW SONG, for he has  
done MARVELOUS things."*

*Psalm 98:1*

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| <b>March Newsletter Deadline: February 25</b>   |               |
| <b>Celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries!!!</b>   |               |
| <p>Every third Sunday of the month the Church provides a cake during fellowship time to celebrate the birthdays and anniversaries that occur that month. This is also the opportunity to contribute a dollar to the "Birthday Fund" for each year you are young! The Birthday Board is exhibited, envelopes and a box are available for your use or you may put your check in the offering plate. Please write on your check "Birthday Fund" so that it will be deposited to the correct account. The Birthday Fund goes towards scholarships for our graduating seniors.</p> <p>Please join us on <i>February 17</i>, after Worship, to celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries!</p> |               |

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## *February Birthdays*

|                        |        |                    |        |
|------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| Melissa Cantacuzene    | Feb 01 | David Mills        | Feb 15 |
| Jackson Florini-Parker | Feb 01 | Neil Simmons       | Feb 15 |
| Bill Pathmann          | Feb 01 | Ian Poole          | Feb 17 |
| Jonas Westmoreland     | Feb 01 | June Scully        | Feb 17 |
| Ian Carr               | Feb 02 | Brenda Brandenburg | Feb 18 |
| Gwendolyn Davis        | Feb 02 | Jay Patterson      | Feb 20 |
| Elissa Poole           | Feb 02 | Hiram Cooper       | Feb 21 |
| Theo Byrne             | Feb 03 | Mike McGibbony     | Feb 21 |
| Ashley Hopkins         | Feb 04 | Jamie Williams     | Feb 21 |
| Sally Pierce           | Feb 04 | Stefanie Poole     | Feb 23 |
| Robert Weidmann        | Feb 04 | Dawn Cattaneo      | Feb 24 |
| Jannis Smith           | Feb 08 | Tatum Rice         | Feb 24 |
| Janice Dodson          | Feb 09 | Barbara Vann       | Feb 24 |
| Judy Forrester         | Feb 09 | Mary James         | Feb 25 |
| Jennifer Winston       | Feb 09 | Darin Garner       | Feb 27 |
| Adlee Muzny            | Feb 14 | Amanda Davis       | Feb 28 |
| Tavia Weidmann         | Feb 14 | Jan Kelley         | Feb 28 |
| Regina Durham          | Feb 15 | Stanley Grise      | Feb 29 |

## *February Anniversaries*

|                            |        |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Robert and Tavia Weidmann  | Feb 14 |
| Don and Peggy Leonhard     | Feb 15 |
| Ernest and Rosemary Nipper | Feb 21 |

*God Bless You on Your Special Day!*



## **GOD CONTINUES TO DO MARVELOUS THINGS**

*In 1992, a little girl from Cherident (Haiti) handed Frances Landers a piece of paper. On it, in carefully printed Creole, were these words: "Thank you for my school." Today this young woman is about 30 (in 2016). She can read and write. She knows her mathematics and*

*her science. She knows the books of the Bible and the Architect behind them. God willing, her own children – a second generation of the future leaders of Haiti – are now entering the schools built by Frances Landers. Thanks be to God!<sup>1</sup>*

This brief story captures the essence of our church's mission to Haiti. Despite continuing trials and tribulations, both human and natural, the citizens of Haiti strive to create a future for their children and rebuild their beloved homeland. The Haiti Education Foundation (HEF), founded by my friend and former colleague, Frances Landers, continues to provide schools, teachers, curriculum, and physical nourishment to the children of Haiti who would otherwise be lost to poverty and the false religions that oppose God's will. The HEF joins with the Episcopal Church to operate numerous schools across Southern Haiti, rebuilding lives and spreading the Gospel.

In 2018, our Session took two important steps to support our mission to Haiti. First they authorized a mission team, composed of Dick and Carol Mattson and Tim and Helen Bumpas, to visit Haiti in search of a school we might adopt and support with our friendship and funds. This trip took place in September of 2018.

Then, in November 2018, the Session authorized funding from

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<sup>1</sup> Martha Abbey Miller, *Hope Personified: Frances Maschal Landers* (Bloomington, Indiana: Westbow Press) 253.

our Endowment Fund to support the St. Luc School in the village of La Brezilienne, Haiti with more than \$6,000 per year, for five years. These funds will provide one-half of the funding needed for the teachers, students, and meals at the St. Luc School. Together with a benefactor in Texas, we provide all the funding the school needs for the next five years. I thank our Session and Mission Committee for identifying and underwriting this special mission.

This support will allow the Mission Committee to raise other funding that will sponsor future mission trips to Haiti, and complete special projects we identify to improve the St. Luc School. Thanks be to God who continues to do marvelous things!

The Session and Mission Committee invite you to learn more about our mission to Haiti in a unique worship service on **Sunday, February 24, at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.** In place of the sermon, Dick and Carol Mattson and Tim and Helen Bumpas will share their experiences in Haiti and answer your questions about our goals and objectives over the next five years with the St. Luc School. Susan Turbeville, the Director of the Haiti Education Foundation will be with us again to share her thanks and prayers.

So, invite your friends to join us on February 24. Consider if you might like to visit Haiti and meet the children and teachers at the St. Luc School. This mission will stretch your faith and give you first-hand experience in God's marvelous works in Haiti. Thank you for your prayers and participation.

*Lacy*



## Session Notes

A congregational meeting has been called following worship on February 3 to approve changes in the Minister's Terms of Call (*i.e.*, salary). The budget approved by the session includes 3% raises for all staff, but according to Presbyterian Policy (*The Book of Order*), the Minister's salary is one of the items which must be approved by the congregation rather than the Session.

The end-of-year financial report indicated that annual income over expense for 2018 was \$10,763.97, despite having a deficit budget. Giving exceeded expectations, and expenses were held under budget. Continuing this trend will allow this congregation to increase our mission spending.

The Fellowship Committee is planning a Valentine's Day theme with Italian food and a "Not So Newlywed Game" as the program for the February Family Night Supper. The March Family Night is being moved up a week to March 6 for a "Breakfast for Supper" preceding our Ash Wednesday worship service.

We will have a special presentation on our mission project in Haiti during morning worship on February 24 by Dick and Carol Mattson, and Tim and Helen Bumpas. We have agreed to co-sponsor the St. Luc School for the next five years. There are pictures in Fellowship Hall of this school.

Other items from the Session reports:

- The Charter of Boy Scout Troop One has been continued for another year.
- Participation in our adult Sunday School classes has shown an increase.
- Additional "disciples" are needed for our Lenten Living Last Supper. Contact Patricia Mills if you would like to participate.
- Randi Oney, our Financial Secretary, will be retiring on April 30.

***Kathy White,***  
**Clerk**



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HOT SPRINGS

Everyone is cordially invited to attend any or all of the sessions of the Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest, which will hold its annual meeting on Friday and Saturday, February 22-23, at First Presbyterian Church of Hot Springs. Dinner will begin Friday at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Following dinner, at 7:00 p.m., the Rev. Dr. Lacy S. Sellars, Jr. will present the plenary session on "A Brief History of First Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs, Arkansas" in the Sanctuary. In addition to discussing unique facts about the church's origin and history, Rev. Sellars will explore current stories that may point to God's future direction for the church.

The first presentation on Saturday morning will be given by Dr. Michael Qualls who serves on the faculty of Memphis Theological Seminary. He will speak on the early efforts of Cumberland Presbyterians in higher education. His title is "The Unlikely Presbyterians Bring Book-Learnin' Across the Mississippi."

The final presentation, on Saturday morning, will be given by the Rev. Don Campbell who will give a personal account of genealogical work he has done on his family, which includes research into his ancestors who were slaves. The conference will conclude at Noon on Saturday.

Feel free to bring a friend to any presentation. If you want to attend the dinner Friday evening, call the church office to reserve a seat. A nominal fee will be charged, or you may come to the presentation at 7:00 p.m. without charge. Please talk to Lacy if you have any questions.



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



The PW Mission Committee outreach project, “Days for Girls,” meets on **February 14, and February 28, at 9:00 a.m.** (the second and fourth Thursday of each month). We are making feminine hygiene kits for girls in poor areas of over 100 countries. “Days for Girls” refers to the days the girls miss from school each month. We need women who can sew, cut, or iron! Please join us. We meet on the second Thursday of each month. You can read more about this project at [www.daysforgirls.org](http://www.daysforgirls.org)

The PW Day Circle Bible Study meets **Tuesday, February 19, at 10:30 a.m.** (the third Tuesday of each month), to study our 2018-2019 PW/Horizons Bible Study, **God’s Promise—I am With You.**

The Women's Wednesday Study has begun a Lenten study of The Last Week: A Day by Day Account of Jesus's Final Week in Jerusalem, by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. Copies of the book are available when the group meets, Wednesday mornings, 10:30 a.m. in the church Library. Please join us to discuss, share insights and learn something new about the week of Palm Sunday to Easter.

### SAVE THE DATE!

**Presbyterian Women of Arkansas SPRING GATHERING,**  
Saturday, April 6, 2019, Jonesboro Arkansas.

**SYNOD OF THE SUN GATHERING,** July 25-27, 2019, Tulsa, OK.

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*“This is a very belated thank-you to all the dear people involved in nominating me (even the sneaky ones) for the P.W. Honorary Life Membership! My gratitude comes from my heart and my love for our church and congregation.”*

*Blessing to everyone,  
Rosemary Nipper*



## THANK YOU FROM VERA LLOYD TO P.W.

**Christmas was a lot brighter** for at least two residents of Vera Lloyd Home. You provided them a special treat with your donated pledges. Breana O. received an art kit, sketch pad, MP3 player and a \$50.00 Walmart gift card. Malik B. received a Nike hoodie, requested candy, and socks to go with the \$100.00 gift card for some new shoes. We also bought items for the Lewis House that included: a microwave, sausage and cheese tray, candy bars, apples, assorted snacks, X-Box games, and 2 X-Box controllers to play those games. Their thank you notes can be found on the PW board in fellowship hall.


Along with the two kids and Lewis House, we gave a \$500.00 check to Vera Lloyd. They can use the money for their day to day operations. Below is a snippet from the V.L. newsletter that sums up why we support this organization.

*“On Christmas morning, Sadie came downstairs to find a personalized laundry bag filled with gifts under the tree. She was overwhelmed. Last year, she had been living on the streets and Christmas was another day to survive. This year, she was amazed to find gifts that she had actually wished for provided by people that she didn’t even know.”*

**Thank you, ladies, for making a difference in the lives of Vera Lloyd children!**



| <b>STATISTICS</b>  |                     |                 |                        |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| <b>January Attendance:</b>   |                     |                 |                        |
| <b>Dates</b>   | <b>Worship</b>      | <b>Visitors</b> | <b>Sunday School</b>   |
| 1/6  | 123                 | 5               | n/a                    |
| 1/13   | 113                 | 4               | 23                     |
| 1/20   | 92                  | 6               | 22                     |
| 1/27   | 102                 | 6               | 30                     |
| <b>December Financial Statistics:</b>  |                     |                 |                        |
|  | <b>Year to Date</b> | <b>Budget:</b>  | <b>YTD% of Budget:</b> |
| Pledge Income:   | 269,648             | 272,615         | <b>99%</b>             |
| Other Income:  | 62,253              | 48,101          | <b>129%</b>            |
| Legacy Income:   | 100,000             | 100,000         | <b>100%</b>            |
| <b>Total Income:</b>   | <b>431,901</b>      | <b>420,716</b>  | <b>103%</b>            |
| <b>Total Expenses:</b>   | <b>421,438</b>      | <b>420,716</b>  | <b>101%</b>            |
| <b>Income to Expense:</b>  | <b>10,463</b>       |                 |                        |
| <b>FEBRUARY COMMITTEES - DIACONATE - SESSION</b>   |                     |                 |                        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Committees Meet:</b> The week of February 18. Contact your Moderator for specific place, date, and time.</li> <li>• <b>Session Meets:</b> Wednesday, February 27, 6:30p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.</li> <li>• <b>Diaconate Meets:</b> Wednesday, February 27, 6:30 p.m. in the Library.</li> </ul> |                     |                 |                        |

| <b>BARGAIN BOX</b>   |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>December Sales and Donations</b>  |                                  |
| 12/5   | 442.50                           |
| 12/12  | 446.00                           |
| 12/19  | 395.50                           |
| 12/26  | Closed                           |
| <b>Donations</b>   | 125.00                           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$1409.00</b>                 |
| <b>December Expenditures</b>   |                                  |
| <b>CASA</b>  | 1,000.00                         |
| <b>G.C. Literacy Council</b>   | 300.00                           |
| <b>OCC Youth Homeless</b>  | 500.00                           |
| <b>BD Cake &amp; Christmas Luncheon</b>  | 269.38                           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$2,069.38</b>                |
| <p><b>THE BARGAIN BOX IS IN NEED OF HOUSEHOLD AND OTHER ITEMS!</b> Please bring your good, clean, useable items to the church. Don't forget to ask other members of your family, your friends, neighbors and co-workers for their donations as well. For pick up, contact Michael Carr 501-767-5844.</p> |                                  |
| <p><b>Won't you consider volunteering in the Bargain Box on sales days?</b> By giving your time you would be helping your neighbors, nursing students (scholarships), and children in distress. Please Rosemary Nipper, 501-525-0153, if you'd like to learn more, or to sign up!</p>                    |                                  |
| <p> <b>LIKE us on our new Facebook page, "First Presbyterian Bargain Box."</b></p>  |                                  |
| <b><u>Bargain Box Workers for February</u></b>   |                                  |
| <b>2/6</b>   | Frances Bateman and Becky Sommer |
| <b>2/13</b>  | Sally Pierce and Kathy McConkie  |
| <b>2/20</b>  | Janet Muse and Mary James        |
| <b>2/27</b>  | John and Frankie Ochsner         |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Session of First Presbyterian Church has called a Congregational Meeting Sunday, Feb 3, in the Sanctuary, at the conclusion of morning worship.** The purpose of the meeting is to review and approve changes in Rev. Sellars' terms of call for 2019. Please be in attendance for this brief but important meeting.

**The Women's Wednesday Study** has begun a Lenten study of The Last Week: A Day by Day Account of Jesus's Final Week in Jerusalem, by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. Copies of the book are available when the group meets, Wednesday mornings, 10:30 a.m. in the church Library. Please join us to discuss, share insights and learn something new about the week of Palm Sunday to Easter.



### Family Night Supper

Wednesday, February 13, 6:30 p.m.

### Valentine's Day Themed Spaghetti Dinner

The Fellowship Committee will provide plenty of spaghetti noodles and a marinara sauce. We are asking the congregation to bring their favorite sauces, meatballs, salads, and side dishes, along with desserts. You will not want to miss our special program! We will play "The Not-So Newlywed Game," complete with contestants from our church! Join us for good food, fellowship, and fun!

**Family Night supper continues** to collect donations for "2 cents a meal." A month of meals for an individual equals a donation of \$2.00.

### **Older YOUTH—3RD REALM TRAMPOLINE PARK**

**February 17, 12:00—4:00pm**

Permission slips will be passed out and must be received to go. We'll have lunch at the church then travel to Little Rock. More details soon!

**YOUTH Events:** Any event info will be sent by text, mail, email, Instagram, and the church's FB page. Please make sure and respond ASAP to any communication or RSVP when noted. Thanks!

**Instagram:** hspresyouth

**Facebook:** First Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs

**Jackson House Donations in February: Baby and Toddler items, diapers, pull-ups, juice, formula, cereal, etc.** First Presbyterian provides two people to bag and hand out groceries every Monday, 1:00-3:00 p.m. **If you'd like to volunteer, please call Jeanette Cline, 623-7233, or 701-0399.** Put your faith in action and become part of FPC's efforts to feed the poor!

**THE BARGAIN BOX NEEDS EVERYTHING, INCLUDING CLOTHING!**

**SALE! SALE! SALE! Bargain Box offers different discounted sale items each week.** Please come and check them out. We are open every Wednesday, 12:00 P.M.— 3:00 pm. All proceeds from our sales stay in Garland County for those in need. Thank you!

**Inclement Weather Cancellations**—Winter increases the possibility of church functions (Choir practice, Family Night Supper, Bible study, etc.) being cancelled, due to inclement weather, increases. In the event of severe weather, call in to the church and press "4" to hear of any cancellations.



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When purchasing from Amazon.com, please register for AmazonSmile to support the Haiti Education Foundation. A portion of each registered purchase will be donated to HEF...and EVERY donation makes a difference!

**amazon.com**

### Flower Angels

When you look at the beautiful flowers by the pulpit on Sunday mornings, did you ever wonder where they went after church? Well, there are two possibilities for their destination. The person who donated them can take them home, or they can be left for distribution. The deacons and Jan Meyers are the “flower angels” of FPC. Monday mornings, Jan creates artistic vases with the flowers and greenery. A deacon will come by and pick up these “rays of sunshine” and deliver to those in our church needing a bit of cheer. So thanks to all of you who provide the beauty of the Earth to FPC members!

**2019 Flower Board**—Pick your date and include your special dedication. If you do not wish to write it on the board, or if space does not allow, please call, email or visit the office. You may do this at any time well in advance of your day. **Cost is \$38.50**

*We are grateful to everyone who purchases flowers that enhance our Sunday worship experience. Those donating flowers are welcome to take them home following the worship service. Otherwise we will make sure they are delivered to someone who is ill or homebound as a reminder of our prayers and presence.*

### Columbarium

Have you visited our Columbarium lately? Do you know we have one?

The Columbarium is the beautiful room, beside the stairs, leading to the balcony. When you are there, a peaceful, calm feeling surrounds you; stained glass, lovely woodwork, and close proximity to the sanctuary all make it a perfect place of forever rest.

Take some time to visit our Columbarium, again, or for the first time. If you are considering it for yourself or your family, please call the church office for more information, 624-5646.



*Dear Church Family,*

*Thank you for all your prayers, cards, food, flowers, and most of all, your love. Your care for us during this time of loss is a great comfort to us, and a blessing from God. You are a wonderful church family!*

*Love,*

*The Bateman Family*

*At our most difficult time of sorrow in the loss of our son Bill, the community of Christ family that is First Presbyterian reached out to comfort and lifts us. Words fall short to tell you of our gratitude for all the many ways you expressed caring and love. God touched us through your prayers; we felt His Spirit in your gifts of time, energy, food, the Sunday flowers, and the hospitality provided by the reception following the Memorial Service. Special thanks for the sustaining support provided by our Presbyterian Deacons, my Co-Pastor Carolyn Beane, and our most compassionate and caring Pastor Lacy Sellars. All are the blessing of memories we will treasure forever.*

*Hartley and Yvonne Jones and family*



## Memorials Received in January in Memory of...

### *Ben Bateman*

from

Joel Hamilton  
 Carolyn Tennyson  
 Bill and Elaine Pathmann  
 Kathy McConkie  
 Jamie Williams  
 Jennie Peck  
 Roland and Lorna Kerr  
 Earl and Suzanne Babbie  
 Betty, Glen, & Kent Estes  
 Carol DeHut  
 Tom and Margaret Beam  
 Harold Duke  
 Pat and Jackie Edwards  
 Bill and Betty Nieburg  
 Bill and Judi Creason  
 Miriam Murthy  
 Curtis and Sue Wright

Larry and Jan Meyers  
 Earnest and Rosemary Nipper  
 Lynn Landers  
 Joan Jones  
 Bob and Sally Pierce  
 Jeff and Michael Carr  
 Dick and Carol Mattson  
 Bill and Mary James  
 Hot Springs Fillies  
 Tim and Helen Bumpas  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Bateman  
 David and Dianna Thayer  
 Wayma Rowe  
 Louis and Sharon Morel  
 Randi Oney  
 Gary and Jeanette Cline  
 Richard and Mary Frothingham

### *Bill Jones*

from

Bob and Sally Pierce  
 Kathy McConkie  
 Faustina Bradley  
 Richard and Suzanne Humphreys  
 Frances Bateman  
 Harold C. Duke, III

### *Dick Kelley*

from

Miriam Murthy



**How to Reach Us**

First Presbyterian Church  
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 213 Whittington Avenue  
 Hot Springs, AR 71901  
 Church Phone: 501.624.5646 Fax: 501.624.2938  
 Business Office Hours  
 Monday – Thursday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm  
 Friday: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm  
  
**Rev. Dr. Lacy S. Sellars, Jr.**  
 Home: 501.318-9904, Cell: 501.282.0209  
 Email: revlacy@sbcglobal.net

**Support Staff**

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 Mr. Elsen Portugal, Organist, 501.693.8388  
 Ms. Jamie Randall, Youth Director, 501.622.8878  
 Mr. William Randall, Jr., Children's Choir, 501.622.8878  
 Ms. Linda Glover, Church School Supt., 631.375.0817  
 Ms. Jan Meyers, Historian, 501.624.2282

Ms. Kathy White, Clerk of Session, 501.626.4859  
 Mr. James Matheney, Treasurer, 870.866.5242  
 Ms. Helen Bumpas, Moderator, Presbyterian Women, 501.767.6997  
 Ms. Jackie Edwards, Board of Deacons, 501.625.2025