

THE FIRST PRESS

NOVEMBER 2018

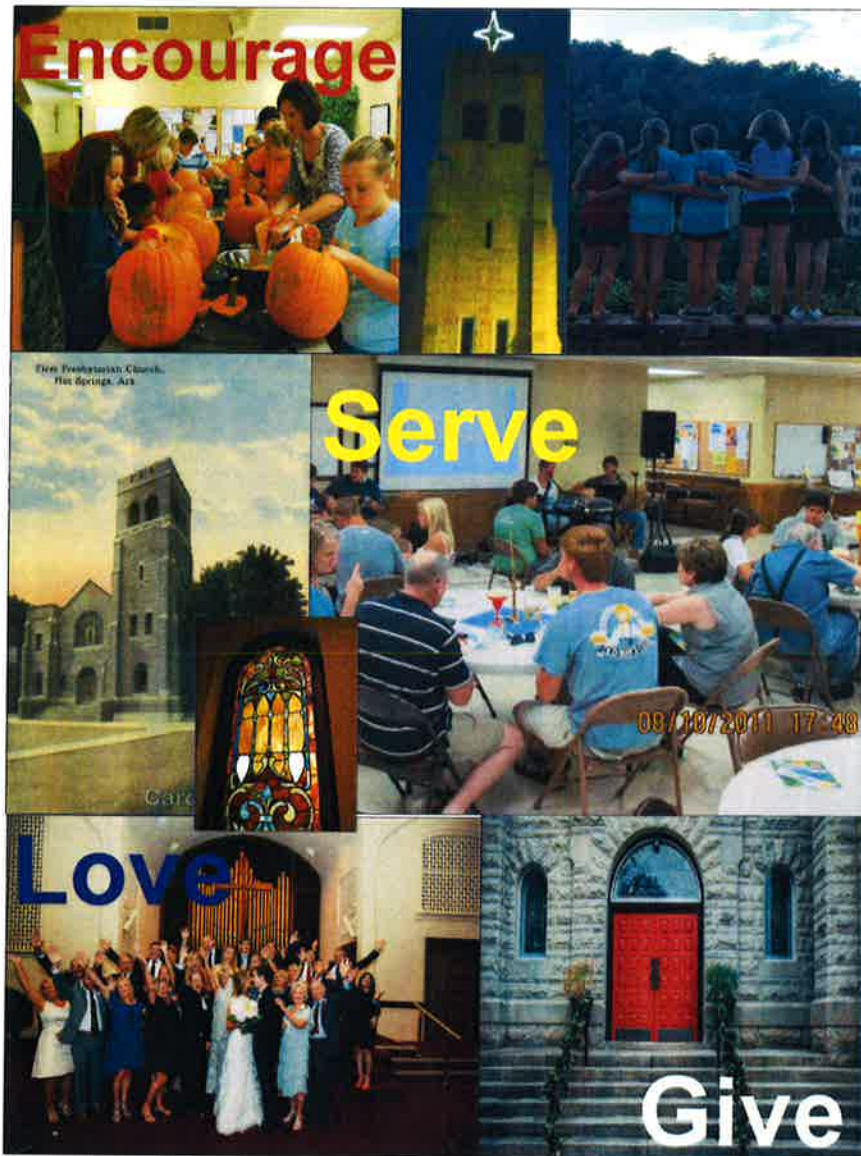


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December Newsletter Deadline: November 26

Celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries!!!

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.

Please join us on *November 18*, after Worship, to celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries!

November Birthdays

Kathy Hopper	2-Nov	Frani Bailey	14-Nov
Daniel Clinton, Sr.	3-Nov	Dolores Pierson	14-Nov
Shelia Allen	5-Nov	Scott Couch	17-Nov
Bob Pierce	5-Nov	Truman Bailey	18-Nov
Sally Simpson	6-Nov	Dick Mattson	19-Nov
Kaeden Schaffer	7-Nov	Nicholas Hinson	21-Nov
Carolyn Tennyson	8-Nov	Allen Lee	22-Nov
Rebecca Jo Newton	9-Nov	Randa Couch	24-Nov
Charles Feldman	10-Nov	Bill Randall, Sr.	27-Nov
Maisie Moreland	10-Nov	Paul Rice	30-Nov
Shelley Bailey	11-Nov	Helon Ricks	30-Nov
Lynn Landers	11-Nov		

November Anniversaries

Truman and Frani Bailey	5-Nov
Andy and Cindy Meyers	11-Nov
Dick and Carol Mattson	18-Nov
Paul and Tracy Rice	18-Nov
Edward and Lynn King	30-Nov

God Bless You on Your Special Day!



Stewardship: Serve, Love, Encourage, Give

Take a moment to enjoy the front cover of this newsletter and study the collage created by Dawn Cattaneo for this year's stewardship campaign. Take the four words you see on the collage and recall times when you have seen these expressions of stewardship in our church:

- **Serve:** Bargain Box; Haiti Mission Trip; Deacons delivering flowers; Elders serving communion; "Days for Girls" sewing project. Jackson House and Samaritan Ministries; Serving Thanksgiving Day dinner; Winners of the Casserole & Dessert Contests.
- **Love:** Hugs you receive when entering worship; "Whittington Fest Block Party;" Smiles given by the choir as they sing the anthem; Youth pictures on the bulletin board; children's faces when Shelley and Emma greet them in our nursery.
- **Encourage:** Deacons hosting a memorial reception; hearing your name called in the Pastoral Prayer in worship; receiving a card from your deacon; your Sunday School teacher walking into the classroom; sitting in the Sanctuary as worship begins.
- **Give:** Dimes clanging in the offering plate; ushers dodging the Bell Choir as they collect the offering; sharing coffee and doughnuts with a friend around the kitchen table. Washing dishes after a memorial reception; stooping to greet a child on Sunday morning. Bob Pierce's blessing at Wednesday Night Supper. Scholarships for our college students.

While listing all these examples, I faced the dilemma of deciding into which category to place each expression. After all, deacons delivering flowers can also fit the "love" category, and Bob's dinner blessing also fits the "encourage" category. If I give my dimes to Vera Lloyd, doesn't that also express my love? And don't the sewing projects express the "give" category?

Which is my point, exactly! Serving isn't serving without love.

And loving without giving is not true Christian love. And giving without encouragement is a meaningless exercise. And encouraging without serving misses the mark. When you think about it, each act of stewardship involves each of these expressions of care, and serving Christ binds each act of stewardship to each other. Every act done in the name of Christ strengthens our bonds in God's Kingdom.

The November newsletter is dedicated to stewardship. When we think of stewardship, most of us think of the offering plate, and for that I'm grateful! This month, the session is building a budget that will best express God's intentions for our lives together, and this budget takes money. About the time you read this newsletter, you will also receive a letter from the Finance Committee asking us to estimate the amount of money we can give to the church in 2019. In that letter you will find a pledge card we ask you to complete and return in worship on November 11, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Giving is just one component of stewardship, however. As I say in my sermons, giving also involves serving—giving from a stance of gratitude and humility. Giving also involves encouraging—bearing one another's burdens and lifting up the body of Christ. And above all, giving involves love. Without love, our giving turns into obligation instead of thanksgiving. As you decide how much you will give to our church, I ask you to focus on each of these expressions of stewardship—not just to sustain our budget, but that God's love might define everything we do in Christ name.

When I look at the collage on the front cover, I give thanks for our active, busy, often exhausted, but always invigorating church where service, love, encouragement, and giving unite to form a unique and loving congregation, which people notice from the time they first enter our church.

So, give! Give joyfully; serve humbly; encourage willingly; love genuinely. With your sacrificial giving, every action we take will bear fruit for God's kingdom. Thank you for being such a generous church!

Lacy

STEWARDSHIP 2019

We are a blessed people. *Red and yellow, black and white, all are precious in His sight.* We have been blessed with God's grace, the Holy Spirit, a beautiful land, God's Word, and spiritual riches.

As we try to follow the teachings of Jesus, we learn of generosity and sharing. We read of the abundant life that He calls us to, which includes an open-handed giving approach: The gifts of time, talents and treasures.

Our concept of stewardship affirms that all we have been blessed with is not truly ours; it is God's. We get the wonderful privilege of taking care of all that we have - His money, His stuff, and His time for His Glory and the building up of His Kingdom.

As we live the life God has called us to live, we want to encourage everyone to prayerfully consider what stewardship looks like in your life. Truly, the invitation to living a life of giving is a life of great joy.

Sandy and Jim Matheney

COMMITMENT SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 11

During the first week of November, everyone will receive a first-class mailing from the Finance and Administration Committee, inviting you to participate in our annual pledge drive. This mailing contains a letter from this year's moderator, Al Carney, and a 2019 Financial Pledge Card. Bring your completed pledge card to worship on November 11 to present during the offering. A return envelope is included in case you cannot be present that Sunday. Thank you for helping the Session budget our mission outreach for 2019.



Session Notes

The Session heard a report from Dick and Carol Mattson who, along with Tim and Helen Bumpas, visited schools in Haiti sponsored by the Haiti Education Foundation. The purpose of this trip was to make recommendations to the church on the possibility of sponsoring one of these schools. There are very few public schools in Haiti, and the only opportunity for education in remote areas is through private schools. Recommendation was that this congregation co-sponsor the St. Luc School in Bresilienne, a K-6 school with approximately 200 pupils. The Session approved a five-year commitment of \$533 per month to be funded through the Program, Mission, and Benevolence portion of the Endowment Fund as well as individual donations from the congregation.

Reports from committees included the following:

- Jake Wilson of the Texas Presbyterian Foundation met with the Finance Committee to report on our investments there. We have six separate accounts with a market value of \$550,049.78 as of September 30, 2018.
- Become a Facebook Friend of First Presbyterian Church of Hot Springs, Arkansas. We will be expanding coverage of church events.
- The lease of our parking lot adjacent to the Scout House is being terminated, and we will again be in control of parking there.
- Plans are underway for a Living Last Supper during Lent. Men who are willing to play one of the Disciples should talk to Patricia Mills.
- November Family Night Supper on November 14 will be a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner with a program by Samaritan Ministries.
- Ric Poole is our new liaison with the Boy Scouts. There are currently 24 boys in Troop One, sponsored by First Presbyterian Church since 1924.

Kathy White,
Clerk



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The PW Mission Committee outreach project, “**Days for Girls**,” meets on *Thursday, November 8, 9:00 a.m. (the second 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

The PW Day Circle Bible Study meets *Tuesday, November 20, 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**.


Women of First Presbyterian, it’s that time again for your coordinating team to plan the budget for the coming 2018-2019 year. Last year we budgeted \$1525.00 and you gave \$1,825 in pledges. This year we’d like to increase our giving outside of Garland County to the Vera Lloyd Home, Christmas gifts for Vera Lloyd children and the PW mission offering. Won’t you consider giving more than \$25.00 for the year to fund these projects? If you would donate the money you spend on just one Starbucks coffee (\$4.25) each month, you could increase your yearly donation to \$50.00 for your Presbyterian Women’s ministries. Please give this prayerful consideration as you write your check to **Presbyterian Women**. Others will be blessed by your giving.

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.

STATISTICS			
October Attendance:			
Dates	Worship	Visitors	Sunday School
10/7	110	14	19
10/14	94	2	23
10/21	91	6	19
10/28	107	5	19
September Financial Statistics:			
	Year to Date	Budget:	YTD% of Budget:
Pledge Income:	202,984	272,615	74%
Other Income:	42,996	48,101	89%
Legacy Income:	75,000	100,000	75%
Total Income:	320,980	420,716	76%
Total Expenses:	315,828	420,716	75%
Income to Expense:	5,152		
OCTOBER COMMITTEES - DIACONATE - SESSION			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committees Meet: the week of November 21, Contact your Moderator for specific place, date, and time. • Session Meets: Wednesday, November 28, 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. • Diaconate is CANCELLED in November and December. 			

BARGAIN BOX	
September Sales and Donations	
9/5	252.00
9/12	291.00
9/19	283.00
9/26	324.00
Memorial	75.00
Total	\$1225.00
September Expenditures	
NPC Nursing Scholarship	1,000.00
The Call	500.00
BB Supplies	45.29
Total	\$1545.29
<p>THE BARGAIN BOX IS IN NEED OF HOUSEHOLD AND OTHER ITEMS! 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>Won't you consider volunteering in the Bargain Box on sales days? 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> LIKE us on our new Facebook page, "First Presbyterian Bargain Box."</p>	
<p><u>Bargain Box Workers for November</u></p>	
7th	Becky Jones and Rosemary Nipper
14th	Sally Pierce and Kathy McConkie
21st	CLOSED
28th	John and Frankie Ochsner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 6 voting will be taking place in First Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall.

Veterans Day Parade will be staging in our parking lot, Monday, November 12. Parade starts at 6:00pm.

The Church Office will be closed, Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23, in Observance of Thanksgiving.



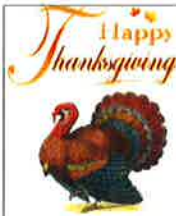
Join Paul Mills as he discusses **Dickens' A Christmas Carol**, over the next several weeks in his Sunday School class located in the parlor. This will be an exciting study leading up and into the season of Advent. We look forward to seeing you Sunday mornings at 9:30.

Women's Wednesday Study—Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power, and How They Can Be Restored by Marcus J. Borg. Our informal discussions of contemporary issues in Christianity are open to all women. We also practice the old adages, *a burden shared is a burden halved* and *laughter is the best medicine*. Join us at 10:30 on Wednesdays, in the church library for our weekly discussion.

The PW Day Circle Bible Study meets Tuesday, November 20, 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.**

Jackson House Donations in November: Canned Meat. 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!

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!



Family Night Supper Thanksgiving Dinner

**November 14, 6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall**

Join us for our annual Thanksgiving dinner! The Fellowship Committee will furnish the turkey, and members are asked to bring a dish to complement a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. The program will be provided by Samaritan Men's Ministry.

Spend Thanksgiving Day at First Presbyterian

In true pilgrim spirit, First Presbyterian Church is hosting a **Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner for the entire community on November 22 from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.** Bring your family to meet our friends from the Whittington Valley and Park Avenue neighborhoods as we give thanks to God for our many blessings. Dinner is free of charge.

The Thanksgiving Day Task Force has posted sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall, seeking volunteers to bake pies, dressing, and to serve in several capacities to welcome and serve our neighbors. Come discover God's blessings as you spend your Thanksgiving Day at First Presbyterian Church!



First Presbyterian Church

Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner

Thursday, November 22, 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
213 Whittington Ave. ~ 501.624.5646



Bring your family to meet our family for a delicious traditional Thanksgiving Day Meal as we thank God for our many blessings. Come see the beautiful Whittington and Park Avenue area and meet the “Church with a Heart in the Heart of the City!”

www.firstpreshotsprings.org



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER YOUTH CALENDAR

11/11/18 6:00 pm FPCFH	<u>Thanksgiving Art</u> All Ages Dinner Provided	
11/28/18 4:30 pm	<u>Christmas Lights at Garvan Gardens</u> All Ages Meet at the Valero on Carpenter Dam.	
12/02/18 FPCFH 10:00 am - 2:00 pm	<u>Christmas Cookie Decorating & Delivery to Shut Ins</u> All Ages Decorate , Lunch, then Deliver.	
12/09/18 During Church	<u>Youth Christmas Reading</u> All Ages - Earn 15000 Points for participating!	

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



Memorials Given in October in Memory of...

Agnes Mathis

by

Judy Hoefer
Brooks and Marilyn Rice
Pat and Jackie Edwards

William "Punch" Anderson

by

Judy Hoefer

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.



How to Reach Us

First Presbyterian Church
www.firstpreshotsprings.org
 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

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 Mr. Randall Pierce, Sexton

Ms. Deleen Davidson, Choir Director, 501.463.4514
 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