



The First Press

January 2019

I WAS GLAD

when they said to me,

*"Let us go to the
house of the Lord!"*

Psalm 122:1

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Birthdays & Anniversaries	3
Message From Rev. Lacy Sellars	4
Welcome New Members!	6
Session Notes	8
Presbyterian Women	9
Statistics	10
Bargain Box	11
Announcements	12
Special Care List	16
Memorials	17
Prayer Chain	18
How To Reach Us	19
Calendar	Insert

February Newsletter Deadline: January 25

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 *January 20*, after Worship, to celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries!

January Birthdays

Candace Muzny	Jan 02	Marilyn Rice	Jan 09
Mary Gayle McGibbony	Jan 03	Stephen Carroll	Jan 10
Betty Nieburg	Jan 03	Michelle Hover	Jan 10
Allyn Florini	Jan 04	Gloria Eickmeyer	Jan 17
Andy Meyers	Jan 05	Tracy Rice	Jan 17
Joe Rank	Jan 05	Earl "Bo" Ricks	Jan 18
Jerry Jones	Jan 07	Mary Little	Jan 21
Peggy Leonhard	Jan 07	Leslie Allen	Jan 23
Hank Simpson	Jan 07	Margaret Beam	Jan 24
Jane Hynds	Jan 08	Bill James	Jan 31

January Anniversaries

Bruce and Sally Simpson	Jan 15
Harvey and Sherry Miller	Jan 26
Tim and Helen Bumpas	Jan 27

God Bless You on Your Special Day!



First Presbyterian Church – A Proud Heritage

Last December I received a phone call from Rev. Jim Currie, a friend from New Covenant Presbytery, where we both pastored churches in the Houston area, prior to my moving to Hot Springs. Jim is the Executive Secretary of the Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest, which meets annually to research and record the history of Presbyterian mission in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Jim asked if our church would host the Forty-Second Annual Meeting of the Society on February 22-23, 2019. The group of about forty members, plus guests, will meet for dinner Friday evening in our Fellowship Hall, and adjourn at 12:00 Noon on Saturday. As a way saying “thank you,” the Society invites the host church to present a brief history of their church to the group following the Friday evening dinner.

Our session gladly accepted their invitation and have reserved the Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary for their use on Friday evening and Saturday morning, February 22-23. Society members from all four states will stay at the Hot Springs Hotel, and hopefully stick around for worship on Sunday morning, February 24.

In addition, I have agreed to gather and organize some of the historical documents from our fire-proof safe and give a one-hour presentation on the history of First Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs on Friday evening. I hope you will place this date on your calendar, join us for dinner and the presentation at 6:00 p.m., and meet some fascinating people from across our Southwest region. It promises to be a fun time.

To prepare my presentation, I will be on study leave during the week of January 14-20. You will be glad to hear that the Rev. Dr.

Jim Chaffin will return to our pulpit on January 20, and he is excited to return to the congregation where he and his wife were married.

I also have a favor to ask. If you have any pictures or documents of our church's history, and you would be willing to let me borrow them, please place them carefully in an envelope that is marked with your name and contact information, and bring them by the church. I will treat them carefully and return them to you as soon as the conference is complete. The Society will print and bind my presentation with the other presentations given that weekend, and I will obtain several copies for our Library. If you would like a personal copy of the PHSSW annual report, let me know in writing, and I'll get it to you once it is published.

I hope you will plan on being with us. As with any presentation I give, there will be time for remarks and questions from the group. Come add your remembrances (and corrections!) to my presentation. This is a great way to see God's handiwork at First Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs!

Lacy

Welcome New Members!



Welcome Jim & Beverly Black!

Jim and Beverly Black were married just one year ago in December of 2017, and began visiting our church a few months later. Both Jim and Beverly lost their spouses to major illness several years ago, and credit God, along with many family and friends, for introducing them. Jim grew up in Valparaiso, Indiana and is a retired college basketball coach who most recently coached at Lamar University and the University of Arkansas, Little Rock (UALR). He joins our church by the reaffirmation of his faith in Jesus Christ.

Beverly transferred her letter of membership from Piney Grove United Methodist Church in Hot Springs and has a home with acreage in Bonnerdale, near Percy. She has owned several medical companies in her career and has been involved with area politics. Jim and Beverly like Hot Springs so much that they live in apartment above the candy shop at Central Avenue and Spring Street. Even in the cold weather they like walking to church and serving at the Thanksgiving Day Dinner. They enjoy traveling to see the country and visit their children.

Please add Jim and Beverly's contact information to your Church Family Directory:

Jim and Beverly Black
3099 Old Dallas Rd
Bonnerdale, AR 71933
501.282.4041
beverly80@gmail.com



Welcome
John & Cathe
Talpas!

We welcome John and Cathe Talpas by transfer of their letter of membership from First Presbyterian Church, El Dorado,

Arkansas where they both served as ordained Ruling Elders. John grew up in Pennsylvania and was raised in the Russian Orthodox Church. He is a Chemical Engineer who has worked in numerous cities across our country, and is retired from management at Great Lakes Chemical in El Dorado.

Cathe has been a Presbyterian all her life including memberships at Westlake Hills Church and Second Church in Little Rock where she served as Sunday School Superintendent and President of the Presbyterian Women. In her career, she has worked as a flight attendant and in Arkansas political campaigns. John and Cathe are proud of their five children and are glad to be home in Hot Springs.

Please add John and Cathe's contact information to your Church Family Directory:

John and Cathe Talpas
327 Paradise Pt
Hot Springs, AR 71913

Session Notes

The Session is pleased to announce that we have received two couples into the membership of this congregation since November. Welcome to:

- Jim and Beverly Black
- John and Cathe Talpas

As of December 18, eighty-one 2019 pledge cards had been received for a total of \$262,852. It's never too late to submit a pledge! A budget based on anticipated income of \$418,957 and expenses of \$438,439 was approved. This contains a deficit of \$17,382. Based on history, the Finance Committee feels that we will have sufficient funds. Funds to support the St. Luc School in Haiti will come from dedicated gifts with a guarantee from the Mission and Benevolence portion of our Endowment Fund.

Seale Construction Company, which is responsible for the ASMSA expansion project, made a cash contribution to this Church and also repaired the sink hole in our parking lot at no charge.

The Presbyterian Historical Society will be meeting at this Church February 22-23, 2019. Lacy Sellars is working on a history of this church to present to the Society. He will be using existing histories, especially the Centennial History prepared in 1976 by Nancy Britt.

Other items from the Session reports:

- An additional handrail will be installed for the outside entrance to the choir room.
- The annual Christmas Eve Communion Service will begin at 6:00. Frankie Ochsner will be coordinating ushers for our worship services. She is always seeking volunteers.
- The January Family Night Supper will feature a "Baked Potato Bar" and short documentary movie.
- Our facility will be a regular polling place for Garland County. This is an opportunity to welcome members of the community to FPC.

Kathy White,
Clerk



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



The PW Mission Committee outreach project, “Days for Girls,” meets on *Thursday, January 10, 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, January 15, 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.**

Please join PW for our 5th Wednesday Night Out on January 30 at the Colorado Grill. We will meet at 6:00 for an evening of fun, food and friends. The restaurant is located at 320 Ouachita and there is plenty of parking in the back. If you have any questions, please call or text Jackie Edwards at 501.625.2025. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.



Honorary Lifetime Membership Award Recipients

Presbyterian Women of First Presbyterian Church of Hot Springs recently presented to Wayma Rowe (L) and Rosemary Nipper (R) Honorary Lifetime Memberships. The Honorary Life Membership


(HLM) program was established in the Presbyterian Church to honor faithful service to the women’s organization and to the church. More than a thousand women (and a few men) receive this honor each year. Funds derived from Honorary Life Memberships support the PW Leadership Development Grant Program. Grants from this program enable individuals to engage in leadership development opportunities such as the Churchwide Gathering, Ecumenical Advocacy Days and the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

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			
December Attendance:			
Dates	Worship	Visitors	Sunday School
12/2	215	23	27
12/9	133	10	17
12/16	119	6	21
12/23	100	7	14
12/24	260	n/a	n/a
12/30	84	11	20
November Financial Statistics:			
	Year to Date	Budget:	YTD% of Budget:
Pledge Income:	244,258	272,615	90%
Other Income:	49,411	48,101	103%
Legacy Income:	91,669	100,000	92%
Total Income:	385,336	420,716	92%
Total Expenses:	376,590	420,716	90%
Income to Expense:	8,746		
JANUARY COMMITTEES - DIACONATE - SESSION			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committees Meet: The week of January 16. Contact your Moderator for specific place, date, and time. • Session Meets: Wednesday, January 23, 6:30p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. • Diaconate Meets: Wednesday, January 23, 6:30 p.m. in the Library. 			

BARGAIN BOX	
November Sales and Donations	
11/7	460.75
11/14	239.25
11/21 Closed	241.10 (Pre-sales)
11/28	276.00
Donation	418.00
Total	\$1635.10
November Expenditures	
Jackson House	1000.00
B.B. Bags	33.38
Total	\$1033.38
<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>	
<u>Bargain Box Workers for January</u>	
2nd	Becky Sommer and Gwen Davis
9th	Sally Pierce and Kathy McConkie
16th	Carolyn Beane and June Scully
23rd	Joan Clinton and Rosemary Nipper
29th	John and Frankie Ochsner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:

- **Tuesday, January 1, in observance of New Years Day**
- **Monday, January 21, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday.**

The Women's Wednesday has completed our latest book, Speaking Christian by Dr. Marcus J. Borg. We will take a break until **January 9** when we begin Surprised by Scripture: Engaging Contemporary Issues by Dr. N. T. Wright, Chair of New Testament and Early Christianity at the University of St. Andrews' School of Divinity. Join us on Wednesdays, 10:30, for a lively discussion.



Family Night Supper

Wednesday, January 9, 6:30 p.m.

Movie Night & Baked Potato Bar!

Join us for movie night! The Fellowship Committee will providing baked potatoes. Bring your favorite potato toppings, side dishes, and desserts. We will be show a short documentary film.

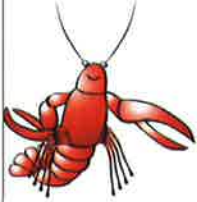


Inclement Weather Cancellations—Winter increases the possibility of church functions (Choir practice, Family Night Supper, Bible study, etc.) being cancelled, due to inclement weather, increases. In the event of severe weather, call in to the church and press “4” to hear of any cancellations.



Recycle Aluminum—Help the Earth—Help Others!!! Bring your aluminum cans to the church for recycling! Rev. Sellars collects the cans, turns them in to the recycling center and adds the proceeds to the Pastor's Discretionary fund. Please place cans in the kitchen, in or by the Aluminum Recycling Bin. No foil please; the recycling center will not accept it. Your aluminum can contributions, large or small, do make a difference!!!

Jackson House Donations in January: 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!



Rajun Cajun Annual Gumbo Party will be hosted by Tim and Helen Bumpas on **Friday, Jan 25th, 6:00 p.m.** Red beans and rice, seafood gumbo, and chicken sausage gumbo will be served; please bring an appetizer or dessert. 115 Sparling Road. **For more information call Helen, 620-0348.**

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. All of the sales we make goes back to individuals and organizations that help the needy in our area. Thank you so much for your continued support, Michael Carr and the Bargain Box Staff.

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!

Project HOPE Food Bank provides (at no charge) First Presbyterian Church with emergency food boxes for distribution to families we know are in need of food. Each food box cost a little over \$32, which is entirely supported by donations to Project Hope. If you'd like to make a donation to Project Hope to help insure that families in our community do not go hungry, please send your tax exempt gift to: Project Hope Food Bank, P.O. Box 39, Hot Springs, AR 71902. For more information please call: 501-623-3663

***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

WHAT IS CENTS-ABILITY? At Family Night Suppers, have you noticed the juice glasses with a “2 cents a meal” cardboard sign attached? I’ve seen them for years and have put some spare change in the glass every now and then. Well now that I’m the PW treasurer and received a flyer from the Cents-ability program seeking donations, I decided to check it out.

The “Two Cents a Meal” began in 1976 as a project to involve individuals to the needs of world hunger. This is an international as well as national ministry to help end hunger. Organizations can submit a grant on how they are going to assist in this process and that is what our money goes toward. To me it appears very similar to the Heifer Project, except people are responsible for planning, growing, and cultivating their own food or for food banks.

Being the PW treasurer I figured out how little this program is asking from each person.

2 cents a meal times 3 a day= 6 cents

6 cents a day times 30 days= \$1.80

Round that to the nearest dollar and it’s \$2.00 a month

Please think about this when looking at that glass on YOUR table. Won’t you donate \$2.00 a month to help others start growing their own food and take a bite out of hunger?

PS- We can take checks for the year if you want. $\$2.00 \times 12 = \24.00

DID YOU FORGET SOMETHING?

Are you like me and sometimes forget to bring something for Jackson House on the first Sunday of the month? Of course, you have staples in the pantry that you could have brought but just forgot. Well don’t feel bad, as you can still help those that are hungry at Jackson House. In fact, cash or checks are a great way to triple the food you forgot to bring. Jackson House can purchase food at the local food bank at 30 cents on the dollar! WOW! Now you don’t have to fret that you left the spaghetti sauce and noodles on the kitchen counter. Just write a check to FPC and mark it for Jackson House. You’ll be glad you did and so will the hungry folks.

PS- You can send a check anytime!

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.

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!

Our Mission Statement

As a downtown church serving all of Hot Springs since 1876, we the members of the First Presbyterian Church, by God’s grace, commit our mission:

To set our standards and strive to live our lives according to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. To be His faithful evangelists by exhibiting the workings of the Kingdom of Heaven, by sharing the news of God’s love and eternal life.

To proclaim the good news of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ as the only Savior and Lord; to provide worship services and celebration of the Holy Sacraments to all children of God; and to care actively for the spiritual, material, and intellectual needs of our congregation, our local community, and our world.



Memorials Given in December in Memory of...

Helen Hamilton

by

Bob and Sally Pierce

Bettye Rodriguez

by

Bob and Sally Pierce

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

Support Staff

Ms. Yasmin J. Martin, Communications Coordinator,
 Email: firstpreshs213@sbcglobal.net
 Ms. Randi Oney, Financial Secretary,
 Email: randi1948@sbcglobal.net
 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