

# THE FIRST PRESS

SEPTEMBER 2018



**“Teaching and Learning”**

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### October Newsletter Deadline: September 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 *September 16*, after Worship, to celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries!

## *September Birthdays*

<b>Lesa Henning</b>	<b>1-Sep</b>	<b>Jamie Randall</b>	<b>18-Sep</b>
<b>Elaine Muzny</b>	<b>1-Sep</b>	<b>Miriam Murthy</b>	<b>19-Sep</b>
<b>David Thayer</b>	<b>1-Sep</b>	<b>Jereme Mills</b>	<b>20-Sep</b>
<b>Hope Holcomb</b>	<b>2-Sep</b>	<b>Bruce Simpson</b>	<b>23-Sep</b>
<b>Helen Bumpas</b>	<b>3-Sep</b>	<b>Rachel Garner</b>	<b>24-Sep</b>
<b>Donna Brooks</b>	<b>4-Sep</b>	<b>Melissa Loyd</b>	<b>24-Sep</b>
<b>Steve DeMott</b>	<b>5-Sep</b>	<b>Sumner Bishop</b>	<b>25-Sep</b>
<b>Sherry Miller</b>	<b>5-Sep</b>	<b>Shane Hardin</b>	<b>25-Sep</b>
<b>Al Carney</b>	<b>6-Sep</b>	<b>Bob Spindler</b>	<b>25-Sep</b>
<b>Kelly Simpson</b>	<b>7-Sep</b>	<b>Kathy White</b>	<b>25-Sep</b>
<b>Susan Cooper</b>	<b>12-Sep</b>	<b>Edward King</b>	<b>27-Sep</b>
<b>Nell McFarland</b>	<b>14-Sep</b>	<b>Kaylee Gould</b>	<b>30-Sep</b>
<b>Patrick Simmons</b>	<b>16-Sep</b>		

## *September Anniversaries*

**Paul and Patricia Mills** 1-Sep

**Bill and Mary James** 28-Sept

*God Bless You on Your Special Day!*



## THANK YOU, TEACHERS!

Why did I enjoy going to Sunday School so much as a child? Because my teachers enjoyed teaching as much as I enjoyed learning.

Mrs. Stribling didn't believe in suspending Sunday School for the summer, so she opened the movable walls that separated our classrooms, pushed the tables and chairs against

the walls, covered the floor of the newly-expanded room with butcher paper, and imported clay—boxes and boxes of clay.

She then took markers and outlined a room-sized atlas of the Holy Land in the time of Jesus, while we came behind her with the clay. We smoothed the fertile plains of Palestine, rising from The Mediterranean Sea, and added more clay each week, to form the mountains leading up to Jerusalem, Mt. Gerizim, and Mt. Carmel. We added trees and roads and towns and tributaries. I sketched the road from Jerusalem to Jericho, recalling the story of the Good Samaritan. On the last Sunday in August, we celebrated our success by pouring cups of water into the Sea of Galilee and watching it flow down the Jordan River, where Jesus was baptized, and finally into the Dead Sea. This summer-long project was much more fun than studying the boring maps in our Bibles!

Mrs. Stribling's energy and sense of wonder about God's creation was infectious. Whenever I study the maps in the back of my Bible, I still recall her enthusiasm as she taught us to walk where Jesus walked. Mrs. Stribling taught me that all believers must be both a teacher and a student. Because of her love of learning, I now enjoy teaching. Ever time I teach, I learn something I didn't know before.

Sunday School is an important setting for both teaching and learning. I believe that all Christians are called to teach, and that our teaching is nurtured by our continued learning. Maybe not all of us are meant to be Sunday School teachers, but we all are

called to share our faith, thus helping one another grow in Christ. My goal as your pastor is to inspire you to grow in the knowledge and love of God so that you too can inspire others to walk where Jesus walked.

This month's newsletter is dedicated to all teachers at First Presbyterian Church: those who teach Sunday School, those who take their turn teaching the Wednesday Women's Study lessons, those who teach the Presbyterian Women's Circle Study, and those who serve as youth sponsors, whether in the classroom, giving a children's sermon in worship, or going on a mission trip, setting an example for others to follow. In other words, this newsletter is dedicated to you!

Now that September is here, why not take advantage of one of the study groups mentioned above. Why not join me for my famous **Presbyterian 101 Class** which runs for six weeks **beginning Sunday, September 16, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 201, upstairs from the offices.** Every time I teach this class, I learn something new and expand my knowledge of God's love in Jesus Christ. I invite you, member and visitor alike, to come learn with me.

Teaching and learning, in all its expressions, are the foundations of our community together. The more we know about one another, and the more we learn about God's love for us in Jesus Christ, the more we will grow and serve and welcome others into our community. Make a pledge this fall to learn more about our faith and to teach that faith to others, sharing Christ's love in your daily activities. Come learn with us.

## *Lacy*



*As parents, we are not responsible to give our children faith; faith is a gift from God given to both us and our children. We are called to live faithfully in childlike ways with our children so that we both might know the gift of faith and live in its grace.*

John H. Westerhoff III

## Session Notes

A congregational meeting has been called for September 2, to elect two Elders to the Session Class of 2020, replacing Chris Chapmond and Margaret Beam. The Nominating Committee will be proposing the names of Frani Bailey and Michael Helm. After examination by the session during a called meeting on Wednesday, September 5, at 6:30 pm, the service of Ordination and Installation for all new officers on September 9 during morning worship.

Tim and Helen Bumpas and Dick and Carol Mattson will be visiting Haiti September 17-21 to explore the possibility of this congregation supporting a school there. Susan Turbeville, Executive Director of the Haiti Education Foundation, will be present for a Commissioning Service during morning worship on September 16.

A “Whittington Fest Block Party” will be held on our parking lot on Saturday, October 6. This party is a joint project of First Presbyterian, St. Mary’s Catholic, and Roanoke Baptist Churches. More details will be coming from the Mission and Fellowship Committees.

Other items of note:

- The Christian Education Committee is planning a winter educational opportunity for adult.
- In spite of having a deficit budget for 2018, we continue to have income exceeding expenses. This provides an excellent opportunity to expand our mission opportunities.
- A new member luncheon is being planned for the Fall.
- Defibrillators are being purchased for several areas in the church.
- The Annual Casseroles and Dessert contest will be part of the September Family Night Supper on September 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Kathy White,  
Clerk of Session



*Once I thought that in teaching older children, I had to have all the answers to hard questions, wrapped up, as a gift, neatly tied, and secured... The real gift is to be open, to risk the questions, to share the stories in faith, and to recognize that growth comes to each through the struggle, and, sometimes, answers come as we live in Spirit, and hold each other in love.*

Roberta Porter



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

### 2018 Cluster III Presbyterian Women's Fall Gathering

#### God's Promise

#### *I Am With You*

Saturday morning, September 8<sup>th</sup>, is the Women's Fall Gathering at Westminster Church here in Hot Springs. Registration starts at 9:00a.m. Claire Rhodes will deliver the message of God's Promise, "I am with You." The Ozark Mission Project will be presented by Dawn Dvoracek. Finally, the overview of the new Horizon Bible study by Rev. Laura Fleetwood, HR will culminate the gathering. The cost is \$10.00 and includes lunch.

At the gathering, we will be collecting diapers, wipes, laundry detergent or fabric softener for "The Call" here in Garland County. It's a Christian based organization that provides spiritual and material support for foster families.


The PW Mission Committee outreach project, "Days for Girls," meet on *September 13, 9:00 a.m.* 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)

**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.

<b>STATISTICS</b>			
<b>August Attendance:</b>			
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Visitors</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
8/5	123	11	9
8/12	110	6	20
8/19	103	7	18
8/26	108	9	26
<b>July Financial Statistics:</b>			
	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Budget:</b>	<b>YTD% of Budget:</b>
Pledge Income:	162,705	272,615	60%
Other Income:	35,102	48,101	73%
Legacy Income:	58,333	100,000	58%
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>256,140</b>	<b>420,716</b>	<b>61%</b>
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>242,743</b>	<b>420,716</b>	<b>58%</b>
<b>Income to Expense:</b>	<b>13,397</b>		
<b>SEPTEMBER COMMITTEES - DIACONATE - SESSION</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Committees Meet:</b> the week of September 17, Contact your Moderator for specific place, date, and time.</li> <li>• <b>Session Meets:</b> Wednesday, September 26, 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.</li> <li>• <b>Diaconate Meets:</b> Wednesday, September 26, 6:30 p.m. in the library.</li> </ul>			



<b>BARGAIN BOX</b>	
<b>July Sales and Donations</b>	
7/4	Closed
7/11	292.00
7/18	262.00
7/25	365.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>919.85</b>
<b>July Expenditures</b>	
<b>Safe Haven</b>	500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$500.00</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>	
<p><b><u>Bargain Box Workers for September</u></b></p>	
<b>5th</b>	Betty Kate Carney and Judy Hofer
<b>12th</b>	Sally Pierce and Kathy McConkie
<b>19th</b>	Becky Sommer and Mary Little
<b>26th</b>	John and Frankie Ochsner

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Session has called a Congregational Meeting** for Sunday, September 2, 2018, at 11:30 a.m., in the Sanctuary at the conclusion of worship. The purpose of the meeting is to hear a report from the 2018 Nominating Committee that will place into nomination names to fill vacancies on the session following the resignations of Chris Chapmond and Margaret Beam, both in the class of 2020. They will place into nomination the names of Frani Bailey and Michael Helm to fill these vacancies. As required by the Book of Order, other nominations can be made from the floor of the meeting. Please be in prayer for God's leadership in the lives of all these individuals and for our session and deaconate. We hope you can be present for this brief meeting.

**The Church Office will be CLOSED, Monday, September 3, in Observance of Labor Day.**

**The Women's Wednesday Study:** Please join us as we tackle The Apocrypha by David A. deSilva. Kathy White will coordinate this study, with a different class member leading the discussion each week. We meet in the Library at 10:30 on Wednesday mornings, and welcome new members. Just be ready to share, to laugh, and to enjoy the fellowship of other women seeking to understand more about our place in God's world.

**The PW Day Circle Bible** will resume study on **Tuesday, September 18, at 10:30 a.m.** (the third Tuesday of each month.)

**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!

**Jackson House Donations in September: Corn and beans.** 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!



*"Thanks so much for all the donations received at the Ice Cream Social last month. Thanks to your generosity we received \$201.50 for backpacks and food items to be sent home with deserving children on weekends. I will be sure to distribute your gifts to children I know can use this help.*

*Thanks again!" Cheryl Poole*



**Family Night Supper  
Annual Casserole & Dessert Contest  
Wednesday, September 12, 6:30 p.m.**

Join us for our **6th Annual Casserole and Dessert Contest!** Members who wish to participate in the contest are asked to bring their favorite casserole or dessert in the equivalent of a 9" x 13" dish or similar size so all may try. Please remember to bring a copy of the recipe. The Fellowship Committee will furnish chicken and beverages. The PW Coordinating Team will serve as hosts.

We have surprise judges this year and winners will be announced at the end of the evening. The winners will be awarded a prize and their recipe will be printed in next month's newsletter. If you chose not to participate in the contest, please bring a dish or dessert that will be on a separate table.

Our program will be provided by "The Call," a nonprofit group that aids foster parents at the beginning of sudden or difficult placements. We hope to see you there!

**Haiti Mission Trip**

Dick and Carol Matson and Tim and Helen Bumpas are scheduled to go on a trip to Haiti to inspect several schools in the more remote areas of the country. They will recommend a school or schools that First Presbyterian Church could support as a mission and outreach effort. They will be leaving on September 17<sup>th</sup>, and will return on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Please wish our Haiti School Team a successful trip. Pray for their safe journey to and from Haiti.

P.S. You have donated \$1245 this year to the Haiti Education Foundation!!

**SAVE THE DATE! Whittington Fest Block Party, Saturday, October 6, 5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.** Co-hosts First Presbyterian Church, Roanoke Baptist Church, and St. Mary's of the Springs Catholic Church invite you to join us for Fellowship, Food, Music, Games, and Fun! More info to come.



*What our children are really asking is for us to reveal and share ourselves and our faith, not to provide dogmatic answers. We do not need to answer our children's questions, but we do need to make our faith available to them as a source for their learning and growth."*

John H. Westerhoff III

*Dear Church Family,*

*I have been quite emotional about the interruption I created during our Worship Service on Sunday, August 19. It was not planned to be sure. My apologies for the temporary pause I created during the service. At the same time I want to express my gratitude for the immediate action and assistance by many and the emotional support by many others. This action, assistance, and support by so many others fills my heart with thanksgiving.*

*Mary Gayle and I are indeed fortunate to be a small part of our wonderful church that overflows with Christian love.*

*Mike McGibbony*



### **Memorials Given in August in Memory of...**

**Warren Cain**

by

Jamie Williams  
Maisie Moreland  
Bill and Mary James

**Pansy "Mimi" Lascaro**

by

Jamie Williams  
Bill and Mary James

**William "Punch" Anderson**

by

Kathy McConkie



*Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.*

2 Timothy 1: 13-14