

First Presbyterian Church **PresbyNews**



March, 2023

Dear Friends,

It is our great joy to tell you that the Committee on Ministry of New Harmony Presbytery has approved the work and reports of our Mission Assessment Team! We are thankful to God for the service of this hard-working group. Avery Dickson and Cathy Chapman served as co-chairs. Other Team members were Christie McLeod, Kim Brabham, Robby Bennett and Calvin Phillips.

Now our congregation is going forward in the second part of our search for our next installed pastor. This began with the election of the Pastor Nominating Committee, or “search committee,” on February 26. We elected a total of 6 people – three who had served on the Mission Assessment Team (Cathy Chapman, Christie McLeod and Calvin Phillips), and three more to work with them (John Long, Kristin Miller and Katelyn Evans). It was strongly recommended that 2-3 persons from the Mission Assessment Team also serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC), and we are doing that.

The PNC will begin its meetings very soon. As your interim minister, I will join with them as an advisory member for the first part of their work. They will prepare what is called a Mission Information Form, our Church’s resume. Then, when that is approved, they will actually receive prospective pastor’s resumes and do actual interviews. Everyone of us is asked to lift up our PNC in our daily prayers. Pray for God’s clear guidance, energy, insights, teamwork and wisdom. Encourage the PNC members when you see them. Their work is confidential. We can be sure that they will be very busy on our Church’s behalf. So, we cannot ask them individually for updates, but we can offer them encouraging words and our prayers.

In the meantime, our Church’s missions and ministries continue to grow. Our new Music Director, Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, works weekly with our children and adult choirs. Our Fellowship Team has planned several all-church gatherings for this spring (see more details later in this newsletter). Our Christian Education Team gives leadership to our Sunday School and Youth programs. Our Administration team has completed the 2023 budget, just approved by the session. Plus, they are upgrading their list of projects for our buildings and grounds for this year and next. Our Membership Team welcomes our newest members. And that is only a partial list!

This is a great time to be an active member of First Presbyterian Church! Invite other people to join us for our worship, mission and fellowship times. Share the good news of Jesus Christ in your loving kindness to one another, and neighbors all around you.

Your interim pastor, Dr. Dan Sansbury

P. S. For the season of Lent, read and re-read the Gospel of John, especially chapters 2-13, which will be the inspiration for several Sunday worship services.



Music Ministry Corner—

It's hard to believe that one month has passed since I began my work here at FPC. Our music ministry is in full swing with rehearsals each Wednesday at 6:00 in preparation for Sunday services. I am not only thankful to lead the Children's & Chancel Choirs, but highly impressed to hear such beautiful voices. Wow! God has blessed our church!

The children and I are having fun during our choir time. They are so precious and we are enjoying singing and playing various instruments. They make me smile so much and I love them already! They will be singing two songs during the 11am service on Sunday, March 26. Please come and hear them that day for "Children's Sunday." Any child ages 1st-5th grade is welcome to participate at any time.

Mrs. Lindsay is teaching them handbells each week also and does a great job. What a gift she is! Her time and talents (and patience) are a blessing that provide pure joy to our church. Thank you, Lindsay!

Our Chancel Choir is going well with 7 strong, beautiful voices. They are every choir director's dream—flexible, kind-hearted, smart, willing, positive, and up for a challenge! I look forward to taking this music-making journey with them. Libby, Gina, Susan, Richard, Bill, Dan, & Buddy—thank you for your dedication to the church and the Lord. I invite anyone to come and sing with us! As time progresses, you will hear a wide variety of music & instruments during worship.

Lastly, I plan to join the church on Sunday, March 19. Thank you for receiving me into your family but most of all, thank you for your love & support! Happy spring! "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly...singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs." ~Colossians 3:16

Tunefully,
Weiz Baker

A note from Mrs. Lindsay—Martellato..Thumb Damp..Mart Lift..Shake..Echo....The Fun Program Ringers and Chimers have been learning these "cool" bell ringing techniques, while the Youth Ringers are busy selecting their music to be presented this Spring. We thank these young people for sharing their talents.



Presbyterian Women News

Circle Duties

Circle 1- No Duties

Circle 2-

March 5- Communion

March 19- Youth Supper

Satellite-No Duties

Bible Study- March 8 at 10:00am Fellowship Building

Honorary Life Membership Forms due March 15.

Transitional House Supplies- Liquid Detergent, Toilet Paper, and All Multiple Purpose Cleaner

They do not need diapers at this time, but the house needs the above items.

April Circle Duties

Circle 1-No Duties

Circle 2- No Duties

Satellite-

April 6- Maundy Thursday Communion

April 16- Youth Supper

Bible Study- April 12 at 10:00am Fellowship Building

Worship Ministry Team News

The Worship Ministry Team is investigating installing a T-loop system that will enhance the audio for our members who have hearing aids or are hearing impaired. If you might benefit from this please contact the church office and let Carolyn know by March 10th. We need to know how many of our congregation this might help.

Session Highlights from February Meeting

- 1) Approved Budget for the 2023 calendar year.
 - 2) Approved new/prospective member packets to be given out to visitors and new members.
 - 3) Approved Family Night Covered Dish on March 15.
 - 4) Approved Annual Easter Egg Hunt for April 9.
 - 5) Approved Hot Dog and Hamburger Cookout and Bingo for May 10.
 - 6) Heard final report from MAT and approval from Presbytery of their mission study.
 - 7) Approved request of MAT for dissolution effective 2/26/2023 with election of the PNC.
 - 8) Approved move of Dal and Debra Luke to active membership role.
 - 9) Heard update on finances and approved the 2023 budget.
 - 10) Heard that pledges for finances/giving increased \$30,000 for 2023!
-

The Session, our governing board of elders, has changed its meeting date to the 4th Tuesdays for the remainder of this year. The elders will meet at 6:00 p.m. on March 28th and April 25th.

Fellowship Ministry Team News



March 15- St. Patrick's Day Covered Dish Supper at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Building. Everyone wear green and bring your favorite covered dish.



April 9- Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Please have all children meet the Fellowship Team on the steps of the Session House. Our Easter Egg Hunt Activities will begin at 10:00am with a story and activities instead of regular Sunday School. The Easter Egg Hunt will begin around 10:20 am.

May 10-Hot Dog and Hamburger Cookout with Bingo at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Building



Middle School and High School Youth Schedule for March 2023

Sunday, March 5th 6:00 pm

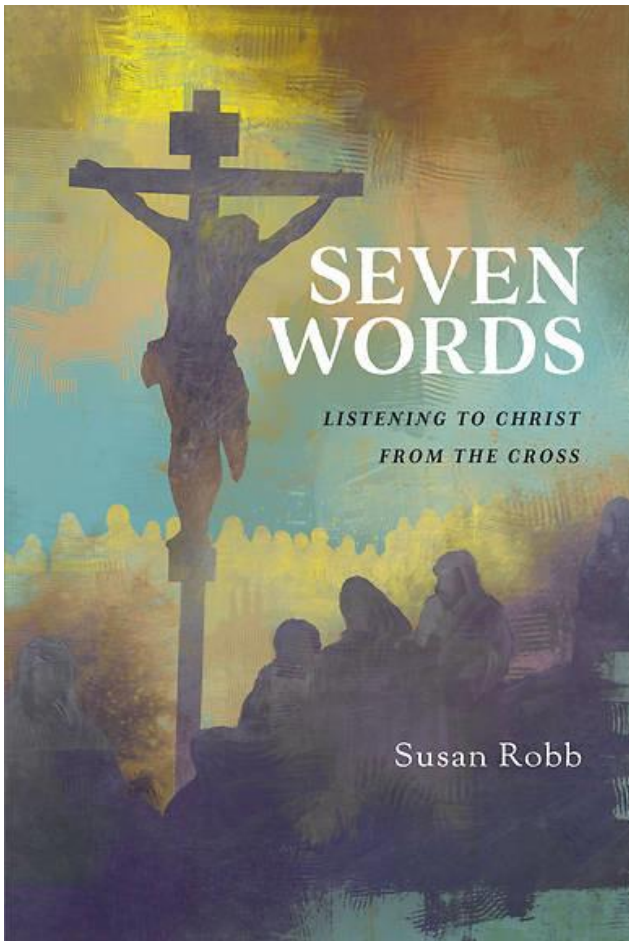
Sunday, March 12th 6:00 pm

Sunday, March 19th 6:00 pm

Sunday, March 26th 6:00 pm Trip to State Park

The first few weeks of March the Youth will be preparing for Youth Sunday. We will take a break on the 26th and enjoy a fun outing to the State Park.





Parlor Class Lenten Study
Seven Words by Susan Robb

Feb 12th-March 19th

The most difficult part of Lent is, of course, contemplating our Savior on the cross: the physical pain, the humiliation, and the undeniable injustice. Our hearts break. It's natural to try and avoid the reality of how Jesus died, but it is from the cross that Jesus shows his deepest love for us. As Jesus draws his final breath and utters his last words, it is then that his deep trust in the Father and his divine glory are revealed. This study looks at Christ's final words from a biblical and historical perspective, showing how we can find life and hope in them.

Parlor Class Spring Series
Words of Life by Adam Hamilton
March 26th- May 28th

In this book of Scripture and inspiration, bestselling author Adam Hamilton brings modern eyes to the most important set of ethics in history. He considers the commandments in their historical context,

considering the meaning of each commandment in Hebrew, unpacking how Jesus reinterpreted them, and showing how every thou-shalt-not was intended to point to a life-giving "thou shalt." He also explores how the latest research in science and psychology illuminates these commandments, rightly understood, as a way of ordering one's life beautifully in the present day. In a culture marked by workaholicism, materialism, and social media-driven envy, God has given us a time-tested path that leads to gratitude, confidence, and peace.

Fellowship Sunday School Class

Please join us for Sunday school. On February 26th we will begin a 6 week study, *Entering the Passion of Jesus*, by Dr. Amy Jill Levine. Following this study, we will return to our study, *Signs and Wonders*, also by Dr. Amy Jill Levine.

Sunday School Teaching Schedule

2-4 Preschool

March 5th Kelli Beck
March 12th Dena Tillman
March 19th Sadie Smith
March 26th Debbie Watson

Elementary

March 5th Tammy Joyce
March 12th Becky Childers/Kristen Miller
March 19th Karen Tillman/Shelley Morgan
March 26th Jean Page Watson/Fred Harris

Middle School/High School

March 5th Marietta Burch
March 12th Gina Goddard
March 19th Tracie Phillips
March 26th Mary Anderson

Fun Program Schedule

Wednesday, March 1st 3:00 pm **Special guest – Sara Ingram art project

Wednesday, March 8th 3:00 pm

Wednesday, March 15th 3:00 pm

Wednesday, March 22nd 3:00 pm

*Sunday, March 26th 11:00 Sunday Church Service ***Children will be singing during worship service. Please mark your calendar**

Wednesday, March 29th 3:00 pm

Parents please note: If we have bad weather and school is dismissed early or cancelled, Fun Program will not meet.

Nursery Volunteers for March:

3/5 - Shelley Morgan

3/12 - Kelli Beck

3/19 - Marietta Melton

3/26 - Vacant

If you would like to volunteer to help in the nursery during worship, please sign up at the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0545afaf22ab9-nursery#/>



Mission Inside Yard Sale will be on Saturday April 1, 2023 from 7:00 to 11:00 am. We are taking items from the Congregation the first of March. Place items on the right side of stage behind white wooden blinds. If you need help delivering your yard sale items to the Church, please call Dan Tillman (843) 703-9005, David Morgan at (843) 337-9231, or David Nagel at (843) 921-3607.

McArn Food Bank: hours of operation are
1-5 Thursday and Friday
Items needed: cereal, bread, pasta, rice.

CONFIRMATION, ANYONE?

Our interim minister is open to forming a Confirmation Class that would meet with him in March and April in preparation for a public affirmation of faith in May. This class reviews the basic aspects of our Christian faith, plus some insights as to how and why Presbyterians worship and serve God as we do.

Usually, this Class welcomes young people at or near middle school age. If you have children or grandchildren of this age who might be interested in a Confirmation Class, please speak to Dr. Sansbury soon.

Thank you

I truly appreciate all you gave to my family after the home burned. Your generosity helped us move into our new home on High St. May God bless each one in this caring church.

Sincerely,

Caroline Quick

Prayer Changes Things

Ellen Duvall
 Bobby Polson
 Gerry & Bobby Rogers; Ina Coggeshall
 Atha Lou Gibson; Gray & Bea Sloop
 Bennie and Benny Lou Moore;
 Gina Goddard's dad: Gene Brymer
 Jodi Reid (cancer)
 Craig Dubos
 Patty Greene (relative of Carole Kennedy)
 Beth O'Neal
 Marion Murphy
 Bobbie Jones
 Vernon White
 Cindy Aremia (friend of Grayson Cauthen)
 Jim Conn, Monty Dodson,
 Elsie Rainey (Shirley Brock's sister)
 Jo Ellen Stewart
 Donna Bilby (Libby Knight's sister in law)
 Ray Harris (Mary Louise Baker's dad)
 Kathie Cook
 Chase, Rebecca and Laikyn Denham



3 Bayley Hydrick
 4 Kim Cauthen
 Christopher Tucker
 8 Debbie Watson
 10 Robert Moffat
 Cathy Martin
 11 Richard Pierce
 15 Marion Murphy
 17 James Gainey
 18 Kristin Miller
 Mary Jane Evans
 19 David Brabham, Jr.
 22 Andy Beck
 23 Reba Brooks
 25 Craig Goddard
 30 Joye Sansbury

March Calendar Of Events

1	8:30 am	MMO
	3:00 pm	Fun Program
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal
5	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship (Communion)
	12:15 pm	Worship Team Meeting
		Mission Outreach Mtg. (after friendship meal)
	6:00 pm	Youth
6	8:30 am	MMO
7	12:00 pm	At Ease Luncheon
	5:30 pm	CE Team Meeting
8	8:30 am	MMO
	10:00 am	PW Bible Study
	3:00 pm	Fun Program
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal
12	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship
	6:00 pm	Youth
13	8:30 am	MMO
15	8:30 am	MMO
	3:00 pm	Fun Program
	5:30 pm	Family Night
19	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship
	6:00 pm	Youth
20	8:30 am	MMO
22	8:30 am	MMO
	3:00 pm	Fun Program
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal
26	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship
	6:00 pm	Youth
27	8:30 am	MMO
28	6:00 pm	Session Meeting
29	8:30 am	MMO
	3:00 pm	Fun Program
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal



Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 12th. Set your clocks forward one hour when you go to bed. Don't be late for Sunday School and Worship.