

From under the Redbud Tree.....



The Redbud

*The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church
Mountain Home, Arkansas*

October, 2020

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A Fixer-Upper

Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what he is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently he starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is he up to?

The explanation is that he is building quite a different house from the one you thought of—throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage; but he is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it himself.

- C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Pastor's Page



Dear members and friends of First Presbyterian Church,

As citizens of this great nation we are given certain rights, one of which is the right to elect the leaders of our nation, state, county and local leaders. It is our duty, privilege and responsibility to choose those people whom we think will best serve our country, our land and our people. We do this through voting at our polling places at certain times over the years. This year we have the responsibility to elect a president, federal and state leaders. It is important that we vote our conscience. In the state of Arkansas we can fulfill this responsibility in **three ways**.

[1] You can go to the voting sites in person to cast your vote on election day, November 3rd. Baxter County registered voters can vote at any vote center on election day.

[2] You can vote in person early beginning Monday, October 19th through Monday, November 2nd. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Early voting locations are the following: the Baxter County Election Commission Office, 213 E. 5th St.; Twin Lakes Plaza 769 Business Hwy. 62; First United Methodist Church, 605 W. 6th Street.

[3] You can vote by absentee ballot. Due to the fears of the COVID- 19 pandemic many people are fearful of voting in person as they might be exposed to and acquire the virus. This method is done **by requesting an absentee ballot form from our county offices**. See absentee request form attached to this newsletter. Copies of the request form are also available in the church office. (See Kristi.)



I was told the **signature** is critical when signing the form. Make sure you sign the form with the same signature as you signed your voter registration form. If the signature appears to be different your request can possibly be denied. If you choose to vote by absentee ballot you **MUST submit a form** requesting the ballot to be mailed to you. The request must be made in a timely manner.

Once you receive the absentee ballot read the instructions carefully. You **MUST** put the required amount of postage on the return envelope when mailing your ballot. I recently received a post card from the U.S. Postal Service with similar instructions.

PLEASE vote. Vote your conscience however you choose, but vote. It is your right and your responsibility and privilege.

The Church at Work

SEPTEMBER 2020 SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- 
- Deacons: Cathy Roevers resigned as moderator of the Deacon's effective December 31, 2020.
 - Mission Committee: Fall picnic and church Christmas party cancelled.
 - Worship Committee: Wana Thacker resigned immediately from Session and as moderator of worship committee due to health issues.
 - Work has resumed on cleaning up and beautifying the courtyard by the Master Gardeners.
 - Session recommended reducing the number of Session members from nine to seven. A letter was sent out to all members to vote on the change, as a stated requirement in the Book of Order.
 - A full set of the Session minutes are available in the church mailroom.
- 

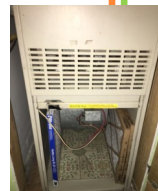
For A Healthier You– Ralph

For several years my wife, Karen, had a very bad cough and difficulty breathing in the late winter and early spring. We went thru the nasal sprays, aerosol sprays, humidifiers and prescription meds. They all seemed to help at times but nothing cured it or gave her relief.

Then one day we decided to change the furnace filter. We also broke down and spent the money on a good one. That was three years ago and she has not had a bad problem since.

Not only did our health improve but there was a great improvement in the amount of dust on the furniture. I guess breathing cleaner air helped us all around.

The cover on the filter even said it would even filter viruses. In this day and age, that is a definite plus. The good filters are available at Lowes and Wal-Mart and are in the \$20 to \$25 range. Well worth the money.



TREASURER'S REPORT

AS OF 9/1/2020

DEPOSITS
\$7,893.00
EXPENSES
\$9,770.24
CHECKING BALANCE
\$31, 443.55

(UNCLEARED CHECKS:
\$4,278.15)



Special Days in October



October 2- Sissy Wells
October 8- Lou Strong
October 14- Phil Jordan
October 23- Nan Jordan
October 24- Bud Hough
October 27- Pam Guth



October 12- Mark & Pam Guth
October 23- Mari & Fred Ruegsegger

Did we miss your birthday or anniversary?
Please let the office know so it doesn't happen again!!

Special Dates

October 1- Shoe Box drive begins
October 4- World Communion
Sunday
October 11- Pastor Appreciation Day
October 25- Reformation Sunday
October 31- Reformation Day



Mareline Bond has a NEW Address!

Mareline Bond
975 Richland Creek
Elkins, AR. 72727



Operation Christmas Child



It's Time for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes!!

October 1– November 15th

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Shoebox process will be a bit different this year. The display will be set up in the nursery, near the office. You can pick up your boxes there to fill. There is a designated shelf in the nursery where you can put your filled boxes. When we are able to reopen church, I will move the boxes to the stage. I will also move the display.

Again this year, I'll be happy to make a box for you. Since I won't be seeing you in church, you can drop your "Shoebox check" off at the church office, during office hours. Be sure that your check is made out to First Presbyterian Church and indicate on the memo line that it is for Christmas Child Shoeboxes. It will help the counters if you will put your envelope number on your check as well.

This year there is a pamphlet that has an envelope attached that is addressed to Samaritan's Purse for you to mail your \$9.00 shipping donation in. (You won't put the shipping donation in the shoebox this year.)

A new "Follow Your Box" label is being used that allows you to discover the destination of your Christmas Child Shoebox by scanning a QR code with your smart phone! Both the envelope and the labels will be in the nursery with the display.

Below are some suggestions for things that are appropriate and not appropriate for your shoeboxes. There is a more detailed list of do's and don'ts in the nursery.

Thank you so much for your participation!
Let's make "lots and lots and lots" of boxes!

-Sarah Kelly



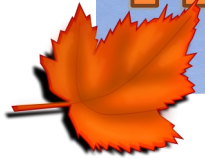
APPROPRIATE ITEMS FOR YOUR CHILD'S BOX

Photo album with pictures, Christmas card with your picture inside, small stuffed animals, baby dolls, plastic sunglasses, solar calculators, plastic toys, flashlights w/ extra batteries, toothpaste, toothbrushes with caps, combs, brushes, pencil sharpeners, pencils, crayons, coloring books, notebook paper, glue sticks, bar soap wrapped in foil and plastic, wash rags, stick deodorant, fingernail files or clippers, plastic water bottles, shoes, t-shirts, bandanas, underwear, or socks.

NOT APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR CHILD'S BOX

Breakables, liquids, glass, mirrors, snow globes, lip gloss, bubbles, liquid school glue, roll on deodorant, war related items, toy soldiers, anything with "USA" or other country emblem, anything Harry Potter or with "magic" in the title, toy money, or any money symbols, used dirty toys, food, candy, chocolate, cookies, suckers, or bubble gum.

Have an "UN-PICNIC!"



BROCCOLI SLAW/FRUIT SALAD- MARILYN W.

1 PKG. Dole Broccoli Slaw
1 Granny Smith Apple
1 Honey Crisp or Delicious Apple
1 Small can Pineapple Chunks or tidbits, drain & save juice
Craisins
Toasted Sliced Almonds
Grapes (optional)
2/3 to 3/4 c. Hidden Valley Coleslaw dressing
1/3 to 1/4 c. Hidden Valley Ranch dressing
Drain pineapple juice into small bowl. Cut up apples, one at a time, into juice. Stir to coat; remove apple to large mixing bowl. Add remaining ingredients. Stir dressing well and add slaw to mixture. Mix well.



LEMON CHEESECAKE CRESCENT ROLLS- MARTY H.

Ingredients: 1 package crescent rolls (8 count), 4 oz. cream cheese, 2 TB sugar, 1/2 tsp lemon extract, zest from 1/2 of a lemon.

Beat the cream cheese, sugar, lemon extract and lemon zest on med/high until mixed then drop tsp. of mix onto the widest end of the crescent triangle. Gently roll the dough, starting at the widest end and tuck corners into crescents.

Place crescents two inches apart on lightly greased cookie sheet or parchment paper.

Bake at 375 degrees, 12-14 minutes

Cool and drizzle with glaze.

GLAZE: 1 cup of powdered sugar, 1 1/2 TBSP of lemon juice

SISSY'S CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

Preheat oven to 375 degrees

Ingredients:

2 1/2 cups brown sugar
1 1/2 sticks Crisco (butter flavored)
4 TB of milk
2 TB of vanilla
2 eggs

3 1/2 cups flour

2 tsp salt

2 tsp baking soda

2 24 oz. pkgs. Of chocolate chunks

1 1/2 cups chopped pecans

Mix Crisco and brown sugar well. Add all wet items, mix well. Mix all dry ingredients and add to wet. Chill dough at least 1 hour before baking.

Makes 80 to 90 cookies.

Bake for 8 to 10 minutes at 375 degrees.



SPINACH CHEESE BAKE- NANCY P.

1 10-12 ounce pkg. frozen chopped spinach (thaw or lightly cook in microwave, then drain well)

2-1/2 cups shredded cheese (I used sharp cheddar)

5 large eggs, beaten

1-2 ripe tomatoes, sliced

1 Tbsp. dehydrated minced onion

1/2 tsp. garlic powder

Salt and Pepper

Preheat oven to 375 degrees and grease a 9-inch baking pan or pie dish. Combine all ingredients except tomatoes and place in prepared pan. Top with a layer of sliced tomatoes.

Bake for 30 minutes or until edges are slightly browned and center is mostly firm. Let cool/set for about 5 minutes before cutting. Makes a great brunch, side dish, or meatless supper.

You can also make this with chopped broccoli if you're not a fan of spinach!

UNPICNIC & PRAYER CHAIN

BARB'S HOMEMADE HEATH BARS

Ingredients:

2 cups of chopped pecans, 2 cups of butter, 2 cups of brown sugar (packed), 1 1/2 bags milk chocolate chips. (I use one bag of mini chocolate chips instead),

Directions:

Spray a large cookie sheet with cooking spray & spread chopped pecans evenly, set aside. On stove top cook butter & brown sugar to the soft crack stage, (290 degrees). Use a candy thermometer. Stir constantly to prevent burning. Immediately pour over pecans & spread quickly with a spatula. Then sprinkle chocolate chips over the top. Wait 45 seconds & spread like icing. Place in refrigerator to cool then break into pieces. Store in an airtight container in refrigerator.

IT IS SOOOOOOOO GOOD, BUT ADDICTING! ENJOY!!



Prayer Chain



CHURCH PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE

We would like to thank Nancy Priest for her dedicated service in serving as the church Prayer Chain coordinator. She is very involved with keeping up with the church's bookkeeping and the wonderful library. Marilyn Wheat has volunteered to take her place as the Prayer Chain coordinator!

Marilyn asks that you contact her by email at wheatnotes@suddenlink.net or on her land line at 425-5148 should you have a prayer request. Be sure to indicate when you send in a prayer request who has submitted the request.

THANK YOU BOTH!



Scripture Readings for the Month of October

Sunday, Oct. 4th

18th Sunday of Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalms 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

Sunday, Oct. 11th

19th Sunday of Pentecost

Isaiah 25:1-9

Psalms 23

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

Sunday, Oct. 18th

20th Sunday of Pentecost

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalms 96:1-9 (10-13)

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

Sunday, Oct. 25th

21st Sunday of Pentecost

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalms 1

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34-46

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'" - John 8:12 (NIV)



REDBUD CALENDAR OCTOBER, 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fri	Sat
		 A·U·T·U·M·N		1 SHOEBOX DRIVE BEGINS 	2 C L O S E D	3
4 VIRTUAL CHURCH SERVICE www.fpcmh.net <i>World Communion Sunday</i>	5	6	7	8	9 C L O S E D	10
11 VIRTUAL CHURCH SERVICE www.fpcmh.net PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY!	12  Columbus Day	13	14 	15	16 C L O S E D	17
18 VIRTUAL CHURCH SERVICE www.fpcmh.net	19	20  DEACON'S MEETING- 10 AM Fellowship Hall SESSION MEETING 1 PM- ZOOM	21	22 	23 C L O S E D	24
25 VIRTUAL CHURCH SERVICE www.fpcmh.net <i>Reformation Sunday</i>	26	27	28	29	30	31 
Please let the office know of any errors in the Redbud! Everyone makes mistakes, and I tend to make more than my share. Your help is always appreciated!!		 CORRECTION				

**First Presbyterian Church
1106 Spring Street
Mountain Home, AR 72653**



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**Church Office Hours
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. /Monday - Thursday**

**Church Mailing Address:
1106 Spring Street
Mountain Home, AR 72653
870-425-3799**

**fpcmh@centurytel.net
Website: www.fpcmh.net**

**Rev. Mike Clark,
Transitional Pastor**

**Adult Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship Coffee: 11:00 a.m.**

**Secretary: Kristi Nelson
Bookkeeper: Nancy Priest**

ARKANSAS APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT

(Revised 07/17)

IF YOU PROVIDE FALSE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM, YOU MAY BE GUILTY OF PERJURY AND SUBJECT TO A FINE OF UP TO \$10,000 OR IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO 10 YEARS.

TO COUNTY CLERK: BAXTER COUNTY & CIRCUIT CLERK
#1 EAST 7TH STREET, SUITE 103
MOUNTAIN HOME, ARKANSAS 72653

DATE: _____

▶ **I REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT BECAUSE [CHECK ONE]:**

- ☐ I will be unavoidably absent from my polling site on Election Day, OR
☐ I will be unable to attend the polls on Election Day because of illness or physical disability, OR
☐ I reside in a long-term care or residential facility licensed by the state.

▶ **I RESIDE [CHECK ONE]:**

- ☐ within the county in which I am registered to vote.
☐ outside the county in which I am registered to vote.
☐ I am a member of the merchant marine or uniformed services of the United States on active duty or service (UOCAVA).
☐ I am a United States citizen residing outside the territorial limits of the U.S. and the District of Columbia (UOCAVA).
☐ I am a spouse or dependent of a member of the merchant marine or uniformed services of the United States who will be absent from the place where I am qualified to vote because of the member's active duty or service (UOCAVA).

▶ **I REQUEST THE APPROPRIATE ABSENTEE BALLOT(S) FOR THE FOLLOWING ELECTIONS:**

- ☐ Nonpartisan General Election only
☐ Preferential Primary/Nonpartisan General & Preferential Primary Runoff

[INDICATE POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE]: _____

- ☐ General Election/Nonpartisan Runoff & General Election Runoff
☐ Annual School Election and Runoff
☐ Special Election on _____ (Date) and Runoff, if applicable.
☐ All elections for **one calendar year**. I am a voter with a disability, in a long-term or residential care facility, or living outside the county.

[INDICATE POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE]: _____

- ☐ All Elections through the next Federal General Election cycle. I am a UOCAVA voter.

[INDICATE POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE]: _____

▶ **I WILL RECEIVE MY BALLOT BY [CHECK ONE]:**

- ☐ Coming to the office of the county clerk by the time the county clerk's office regularly closes on the day before the election.
☐ Electronic Means* – My email address is: _____ *(Only available for UOCAVA voters)
☐ Mail. I request that you mail my ballot to the following address:

- ☐ Designated Bearer, Administrator, or Authorized Agent: [PRINTED NAME]

Note: A designated bearer may obtain or deliver absentee ballots for no more than two (2) voters per election and may only do so within the 15 days before a school, special election, preferential primary, or general election or the 7 days before a runoff or general primary election. A bearer, administrator, or agent must provide a current and valid photo ID to the clerk and must sign the register, under oath, when picking up or delivering an absentee ballot.

The information I have provided is true to the best of my knowledge under penalty of perjury. If I have provided false information, I may be guilty of perjury and subject to a fine of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or imprisonment for up to ten (10) years, or both under federal laws.

I certify under penalty of perjury that I am registered to vote, and that I am the person who is registered.

Printed or Typed Name of Voter

Signature of Voter

Voting Residence Address of Voter

Date of Birth of the Voter

City or Town, State and Zip Code

Signature of Bearer, Administrator, or Agent (if applicable)

RETURN THIS APPLICATION TO YOUR COUNTY CLERK.

You may obtain your County Clerk's return address for your Absentee Ballot Application at the following link:

http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/Documents/county_clerks_for_website.pdf

