



# The Redbud

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church  
Mountain Home, Arkansas

SEPTEMBER 2021

## A Note from Pastor

To all avid Redbud Readers.

Due to financial issues, we are in the process of re-doing the Redbud format. We are called to be good stewards of our resources including costs of operation. It costs over twice as much to print a color page verses a black and white page. For every spot of color on a page we print, it costs extra whether it be a tiny image or a large one. Beginning with the September Redbud we are eliminating much of the color that has previously been included in the Redbud. The information and communications you receive will continue to be the same. It might look different, but we will continue to do our best to inform you of the happenings of our church family. Please be patient. I realize change is difficult for many of us. Kristi, our office secretary, has been directed to make the changes as per my request.

We cannot create a black and white version for hard copies for the website and electronic copies. If we could it would mean we would have to create two separate newsletters. That is not good stewardship of time. If you have questions or comments, please direct them to me, Pastor Clark. We are going to try this for several months and then re-evaluate the changes. This will be a small change in cost but every little bit will help in the overall costs of doing church. By the way, we are getting a wonderful number of people visiting our church website that are viewing our Redbud page.

On another note in the use of color, we are taking a look at how we can reduce our expenses in the printing of the Sunday Worship bulletin. We have also reduced the number of worship bulletins we print due to the reduction in worship attendance. Your help and support will be greatly appreciated.

We are all called to be good stewards of our resources including use of supplies and income from your financial support.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Clark

# ***Pastor's Update on Church Happenings***

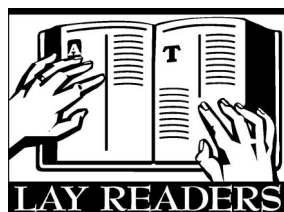
The Session at the August meeting decided to hold off for another month in having fellowship following worship due to the increase in COVID cases in our county. Likewise, masks will continue to be required at worship, Communion elements will be by the individual set available as you enter for worship. If you would like to participate in Communion by video on our church website worship site [www.fpcmh.net](http://www.fpcmh.net) you can stop by the church office during office hours the week prior and pick up an individual communion set .

**A congregational meeting has been called by the Session for Sunday, September 12, immediately following worship** with the following agenda: [1] ratify the election of the two elders we elected by paper ballot vote back in November of 2020 for the class of 2023- George Hove, Ralph Gillespie,; [2] ratify the election of Pete Wells to finish out the term vacated by the death of Gale Newman; [3] elect Don Crapnell to complete the term vacated by elder Barb Sandberg and to ratify the election of Loweta Rogers to serve as a deacon for a three year term. [4] elect the nominating committee for the class of 2024.

The ratification of the election ballots has been recommended by the Presbytery leaders.

The announcement of the September 12th congregational meeting will be by internet electronic posting, announcement in the September issue of the Redbud and by notice in the September 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship bulletin.

Pastor Clark



*Sept. 5– Doug Wells*

*Sept. 12– Mary Smith*

*Sept. 19– Don Crapnell*

*Sept. 26– Kay Kunkel*

## ***Serving in Worship Services***



*Sept. 5– Ruth Fine*

*Sept. 12– Sherman Fine*

*Sept. 19– Ruth Fine*

*Sept. 26– Sherman Fine*

## ***Current Church Leadership***

With the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, it has been difficult to keep everyone in the congregation aware of the current members of the Session, the Deacons and the various committee moderators. Here is a brief list of these volunteer leaders who do so much to keep First Presbyterian Church operating.

**The SESSION:** Michele Wells (Clerk of Session), Don Crapnell, Kay Kunkel, Nancy Priest, Ruth Fine, Pete Wells, George Hove and Ralph Gillespie.

**The DEACONS:** Marty Hasty (Moderator of the Deacons), Ellen Jordan, Loweta Rogers, Mary Smith, Eleanore Wheeler, Dee Crapnell and Jackie Hoff.

**Committee Moderators:** **Worship**– Ruth Fine, **Finance**– Pete Wells, **Building & Grounds**– Ralph Gillespie, **Mission**– Mary Smith, **Personnel & Administration**– Kay Kunkel. The Ministry, Nominating & Funeral Coordinator moderator positions are vacant at this time.



**SESSION MEETING**– The Session met for its regular monthly meeting on August 17th, 2021. The Session did not meet in July due to Pastor Clark's illness. A copy of the latest minutes will be posted in the mailroom bulletin board.

**DEACON'S MEETING:** The Deacons did not meet during the months of July and August.

**The Deacon's next meeting will be held on September 21st at 1:00 pm. in the library.**

### **Treasurer's Report for July, 2021**

Deposits: \$6,677.00

Expenses: \$ 14,169.00

Checking Account Balance: \$18,089.34

# ***Special Dates in September***

Happy Birthday to:

September 4th— Margie Williamson

September 16th— Barb Sandberg

## **OTHER IMPORTANT DATES IN SEPTEMBER**

Labor Day— September 6, 2021

Patriot Day— September 11, 2021

**Congregational Meeting— September 12, 2021 (following worship)**

National Grandparents Day— September 12, 2021

First Day of Autumn— September 22, 2021

## **Our Help — Past, Present and Future**

This month, America marks the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, which ended almost 3,000 lives and changed life forever for millions more. The nation was shaken to its very roots, with violence jolting out of us any assumption that “it can’t happen here.” September 11 banished any lingering notion that being on the side of “liberty and justice for all” served as insulation against mass tragedy. We now had more to fear than fear itself. Psalm 46 reminds us that “though the earth should change” (v. 2) — as it did on 9/11 — God remains “our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (v. 3). We are never alone or without hope, even on life-altering days.

How have God’s presence and power sustained you through life’s changes? How might sharing your story help someone else when their world or faith gets shaken? —adapted from *The Wired Word*



# MISSION News

The Mission Committee met on August 4th, 2021 in the Fellowship Hall. Their guest speaker was Sheri Alexander from the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox program. She discussed a new addition this year— the online shoebox building web page! First Presbyterian Church will have its own link which is available on our website ([www.fpcmh.net](http://www.fpcmh.net).) This link will take you to a dedicated web page for online shoeboxes. You will be able to choose the age of the child, etc. and also be able to choose special items to give to the child, without leaving the comfort of your home. The total cost of the online shoebox is \$25.00 which includes the shipping fee. *(More information about the Shoebox program can be found on page 8 & 9 of this newsletter.)*

## **Food donations for the summer months were**

June—27 pounds; July—47 pounds; and August—23 pounds. Please know that food donations are always appreciated. Upcoming dates for mission projects were discussed including the postponement of the church picnic and future donations to the Alpha and Gamma Houses.

8/27/2021

Thank you for all of the cards and phone calls. I appreciate knowing you all are concerned. I will try to be back in church as soon as I can get around more easily!

- Jim Lillis



**There will be a congregational meeting after worship service on September 12th, 2021.**

# **SCRIPTURES FOR SEPTEMBER**

Sunday, Sept. 5

**15th Sunday after Pentecost**

*Isaiah 35:4-7a*

*Psalms 146*

*James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17*

*Mark 7:24-37*

Sunday, Sept. 12

**16th Sunday after Pentecost**

*Isaiah 50:4-9a*

*Psalms 116:1-9*

*James 3:1-12*

*Mark 8:27-38*

Sunday, Sept. 19

**17th Sunday after Pentecost**

*Jeremiah 11:18-20*

*Psalms 54*

*James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a*

*Mark 9:30-37*

Sunday, Sept. 26

**18th Sunday after Pentecost**

*Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29*

*Psalms 19:7-14*

*James 5:13-20*

*Mark 9:38-50*

*Women's Group Meeting*



*There will be a women's group meeting held Tuesday, September 14th at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The group will be studying Lesson #4 in the "Love Carved in Stone" study book. All women are invited. Please wear a mask if you have not been vaccinated for Covid-19. - Dee Crapnell*

## ***UPDATES TO THE 2021 CHURCH DIRECTORY***

**It's time to update your 2021 Church Directory! These are changes that have occurred since the directory was published. Some you may already have, and some may be new to you!**

Pg. 6– Hove, George: phone number– 488-5681

Pg. 12– Mareline Bond: 479-240-2026

Pg. 13– David Buff: 870-405-8887

Pg. 13- Charlotte Cherry: 421-2278 Assisted Living Room # 606 300 Good Samaritan Drive Mountain Home, AR 72653

Pg. 13.- Don & Dee Crapnell: 870-499-2194; email: ddnell187c@gmail.com

Pg. 15– Phyllis Gladson: 309-250-5724

Pg. 16– Bud & Barb Hough: Bud Hough Room #15 300 Good Samaritan Drive Mountain Home, AR 72653 email: bhough7593@gmail.com

Pg. 18– Sarah Kelly: 12 Breckenridge Ct. Enterprise, AL 36330; 870-656-7384

Pg. 18– Kay Kunkel: email– dardenkunkel@gmail.com

Pg. 18– Bob & Sue Kearns: Remove the cell phone number

Pg. 19– Janet Newman: 3901 W. Arnold Rogers, AR 72757

Pg. 21– Velma Shaw: 870-410-4624

Pg. 21– Ron & Mary Smith: Lot #6; Mary's cell– 870-656-9868, Ron's cell: 8780-656- 9935

Pg. 22– Suzanne Smyth: 383 Drewry's Bluff Drive Fayetteville, AR. 72704;  
870-404-7052

Pg. 22- Judy Sulephen: 700 Sierra Mountain Home, AR 72653

Pg. 23– Eleanore Wheeler: 144 Pine Cone Drive Mountain Home, AR 72653 870-

## ***Samaritans' Purse Christmas Shoebox Time!***

It is time to begin planning for the **Samaritan's Purse Christmas shoeboxes!** The shoebox project will start on Friday, October 1st, 2021 and end on Sunday, November 8th, 2021.

This year you will have **three different options** for participating in the Shoebox program.

1. You may pick up an empty Samaritan's Purse shoebox at the church and also information sheets you can use to help you choose the right items to fill the box with. Certain items cannot be mailed, and certain items are encouraged for boys/girls and different age groups. You will need to include a payment of \$9.00 to pay for the shipping of your shoebox. Please make sure to mark your shipping payment with "shoebox" so it can be routed to the correct account by the counters.
2. Again this year, if you would like to **donate \$25.00** to have someone from First Presbyterian create a box for you, please let Mary Smith know. Make SURE to mark your donations with "SHOEBOXES" so that the counters can route the money to the appropriate place. A volunteer will then shop for you and fill your box. The shipping fee will be included in the \$25.00.
3. There is a **brand new way** to participate called **Build a Shoebox Online**. You can give boys and girls in need a gift-filled shoebox packed from your computer or handheld device. In just a few clicks, you can select toys and other fun items to include as well as a letter and photo of yourself if you'd like. Samaritan's Purse will pack and ship your shoebox to children all over the world. First Presbyterian Church has its very own web page that you can get to through a special link. **This web page link is now available on our church website, or can be sent to you via email by contacting the church office.**



## ***Samaritans' Purse Christmas Shoebox Time cont.***

From your computer or tablet you will click on this special link and be taken to a page with a picture of the church and a brief paragraph explaining our goal, and a button to press that says **“Build a Shoebox Online Now.”**

You will then have the option to choose **“Start Building”** or **“Build It For Me.”**

If you choose **“Start Building”** you will then choose a boy or a girl, an age range, and you will be able to drop in the shoebox essential items, and special gift items just by pushing the select buttons. You will have the option to add a note to your child, or not. It will give you the chance to build another box, or to go to the checkout. You will need a credit card to pay the \$25.00 fee for the box. This fee includes all shipping and handling. I found the process very easy to follow, and I’m sure you will too.

You may just simply want Samaritan’s Purse to build a box for you. You will simply choose **“Build It For Me”** and then proceed to the checkout. You will not need to choose the items, or the child’s age or gender.

More specific information will be coming in the October Redbud, as well as in the weekly church worship bulletins. Since this is a new method, you will be able to start making online shoeboxes as soon as you would like. The link to the shoebox program is now on the opening page of the FPC website.



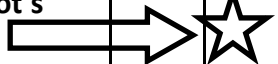
**So—** you can choose to shop til’ you drop and build your own shoebox, returning it to FPC to ship; send \$25.00 to the church in an envelope marked “shoeboxes” and a volunteer from the church will do the shopping for you; or you can use technology and build a box using your computer from your own home!

**Whichever way you choose— the Mission committee is here to help!**

First Presbyterian’s Shoebox goal is 125 boxes by the deadline of November 8th, 2021. **All 3 ways count towards reaching our goal!!**

**We can’t wait to see the shoeboxes start to stack up at the church.**

# SEPTEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 9 am— Adult Bible Study (Library)  10 am— Worship Service  Communion Sun- day	6   <i>Labor Day</i> <u>Church office will</u> <u>be closed!</u>	7  9AM COUNTERS	8 <i>MISSION</i> <i>MEETING</i> 10:30 am (Fellowship Hall) LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY 1:30 PM (Nursery)	9 <i>MASTER</i> <i>GARDNERS</i> <i>MEETING</i> 12:30 PM (Fellowship Hall) Patriot's Day 	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 9 am— Adult Bible Study (Library)  10 am— Worship Service  <u>Congregational</u> <u>Meeting-</u> <u>after worship</u> <u>service</u>	13  9 AM COUNTERS	14  <i>Women's Group</i> <i>Meeting</i> 1:00 pm <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	15  LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY 1:30 PM (NURSERY)	16	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 9 am— Adult Bible Study (Library)  10 am— Worship Service	20 9AM COUNTERS  <i>Kristi will be</i> <i>out of the</i> <i>office!</i>	21 <i>DEACON'S</i> <i>MEETING— 10 AM</i> <i>(Library)</i>  <i>SESSION</i> <i>MEETING— 1 PM</i> <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>	22 LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY 1:30 PM (Nursery)  Autumn Begins	23 REDBUD DEADLINE	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 9 am— Adult Bible Study (Library)  10 am— Worship Service	27 9AM COUNTERS	28	29 LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY 1:30 PM (Nursery)	30		

**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](http://www.fpcmh.net)**

**Rev. Mike Clark,**  
**Transitional Pastor**  
**Adult Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.**  
**Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.**