

# The Redbud

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church  
Mountain Home, Arkansas

## DECEMBER 2021

**Pastor: Mike Clark**

316-648-9238 (cell)

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**Office Secretary: Kristi Nelson**

870-425-3799 (Office phone)

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www.fpcmh.net (church website)

**Sunday Worship Services-10:00 am**

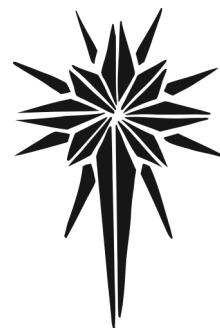
**Coffee Fellowship during December**

**Wednesday Lectionary Bible Study- 1:30 pm (Church Nursery)**

### From "The Stable of Bethlehem"

'Twas not a palace proud and fair he chose for his first  
home;  
No dazzling pile of grandeur rare, with pillar'd hall  
and dome;  
Oh no! a stable, rude and poor, received him at his birth;  
And thus was born, unknown, obscure, the Lord of heaven and  
earth.

Come to your Savior's lowly bed, ye vain and proud of heart!  
And learn with bowed and humbled head the lesson 'twill impart;  
'Twill teach you not to prize too high the riches vain of earth —  
But to lay up in God's bright sky treasures of truer worth. ...



—Rosanna Leprohon (1829-1879)



# FROM THE PASTOR

Happy church New Year! Yes, it is again that time of year when we begin anew in our church year. Finally, after what seems a century, we are back in the pew, singing our hymns, greeting one another and feeling that we are finally together, anticipating that first Sunday when we can fellowship together after worship. On Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, the doors to fellowship will once again open. The waiting and anticipation have been almost unbearable. IT HAS BEEN A LONG, LONG WAIT! And there have been days when we wondered if we would ever fellowship together again.

I would like to think the Advent Season in our church year resembles the wait we have had, anticipating the resumption of fellowship in some ways. Our focus during the Advent Sundays is on hope, joy, peace and love. We are waiting and hoping we will once again see our church sisters and brothers. We often think of the joy we will experience as we are able to sit at the table with our church friends. Oh, what peace it brings to our hearts as we share our life with those we miss so much. And finally, we hunger for the love we experience when we are able to share the love of Christ with those we love so dearly.

**Advent:** a time in our church year when we focus on the **HOPE** of Jesus Christ; the **JOY** we experience as we anticipate the birth of the Christ-child; the **PEACE** that passes all understanding as we prepare for the celebration of the savior of the world; and finally, we come to a greater understanding of the **LOVE** God has shown us as God came into the world with love and grace in God's only Son, Jesus Christ.

I hope you take time this Advent season to focus on the real meaning of the birth of Jesus Christ and what it means for **YOU** and the **WORLD**. May this Advent season be a blessed time as the Grace of God shines brightly in your life. May the hope, joy, peace and love of God be with you in the weeks of advent.

Pastor Clark

## **BAXTER REGIONAL PARKING LOT PRAYER PROJECT**

First Presbyterian Church has been assigned the week of Monday, December 6, Friday, December 10th to participate in the BRMC parking lot prayer project. **To participate you will need to be at the hospital's designated parking lot from 6:45 am until 7:45 am on one or all of the days from Dec. 6 thru Dec. 10th.** You simply will pray for BRMC's doctors nurses and other staff during their shift change. You will not need to leave your car during this time. What an easy way to encourage our local health workers during the holiday season.

## Special Dates in December



**Dec. 12– Patty Gamelin**

**Dec. 14– Sherman Fine**

**Dec. 17– Loweta Rogers**

**Dec. 20– David Buff**

**Dec. 22– Sarah Kelly**

**Dec. 23– Sarah Ruegsegger**

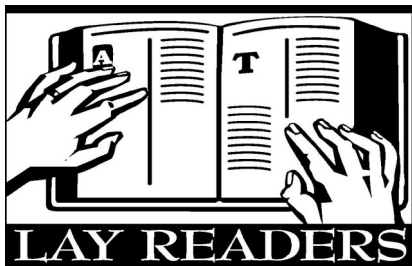


**Dec. 19- George & Joyce Hove**

**Dec. 28– Phil & Ellen Jordan**

- **Second Sunday of Advent,  
December 5, 2021**
- **Third Sunday of Advent  
December 12, 2021**
- **Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 19, 2021**
- **First day of winter  
December 21, 2021**
- **Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2021**
- **Christmas Day  
December 25, 2021**
- **New Year's Eve/Watch  
Night, December 31, 2021**

## Serving in Worship Services

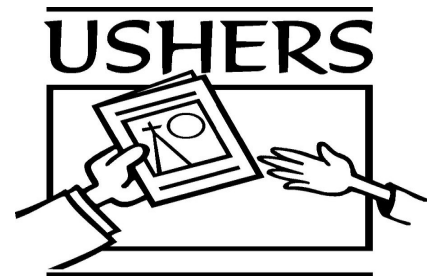


*Dec. 5th– Nancy P.*

*Dec. 12th– Kay K.*

*Dec. 19– Ralph G.*

*Dec. 26– Carolyn H.*



All Sundays in December  
*Sherman & Ruth Fine*

It's time to volunteer to serve the church in 2022!

\*If you would like to volunteer to be added to the current lay readers in 2022 please contact Kristi at the church office as soon as possible. (425-3799) I will be contacting the current lay readers via mail soon to confirm their participation as I am setting up the schedule for 2022.

\*If you would like to host Fellowship you may sign up on the sign up sheet in the main hallway.

# ***Church Leadership Meetings***

## **OCTOBER SESSION MEETING**

The Session met on October 19, 2021 for their regular monthly meeting. Highlights from the meeting included: The wearing of masks was made optional and the singing of all hymns and liturgy songs during worship services be done. Offering and Communion procedures will remain the same with the Session revisiting the reinstating of Fellowship time during their regular November meeting. Carolyn Hannon accepted the nomination for the position of Elder.

Discussion was held concerning the selling of the church handbells and church finances. The complete minutes for the October meeting are on the bulletin board in the church mail room. The next meeting of the Session will be on November 16, 2021.

- Pam Guth, Clerk of Session

## **OCTOBER DEACON'S MEETING**

The Deacons met on October 19, 2021 for their regular monthly meeting.

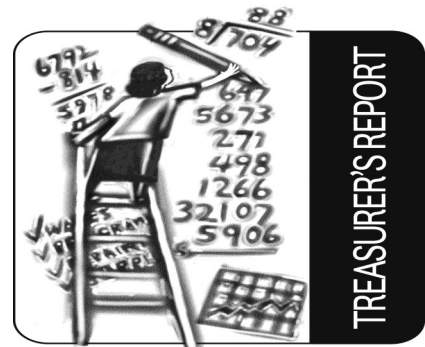
Each of the Deacons shared their joys and concerns of their flock. They also updated each other as to what has been happening in each of their lives. It was good to hear, as each shared, the joys that had happened this last month. It was especially good to hear that Pastor Mike and Jan had a very relaxing and fun filled vacation!

Under new business, Christmas gifts for shut-ins were discussed. Martha will get information to the Deacon's about the item that was shared before the next meeting for approval. The next meeting of the Deacons will be on November 16, 2021.

- Martha Hasty, Deacon Moderator

## **OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORT**

Donations	\$7,017.00
Checks cleared	\$6,768.81
Bank balance	\$75,456.72



# MISSION *News*

## **The latest updates from the Mission committee**

### **The Samaritan's Purse Shoebox mission project was a huge success!**

The shoebox delivery final count was 128 shoeboxes. Thanks to all who helped pack shoeboxes, ordered boxes on-line, and to Mary Smith for organizing it all! The Mission Committee is so proud of the continued giving to the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox project by First Presbyterian.



In November the Mission committee with help from the Deacons made and delivered lunch for two medical units at BRMC as an appreciation “gift” for all of their work during Covid and beyond!



## **MISSION COMMITTEE IS COLLECTING CLEANING SUPPLIES**

From Nov. 15 thru Dec.15 FPC will be collecting cleaning supplies for the Alpha and Gamma Houses in Mtn. Home. The list of items need are: Liquid laundry detergent, bleach, “Quick Shine” floor finish, “Pine Sol” paper towels, kitchen sponges, tall kitchen trash bags, daily shower cleaner, aluminum foil & toilet paper. These items can be dropped off in the Narthex of the church! Thank you in advance for your generosity!

- Mary Smith

***Why not try this delicious cake this holiday season while also spending some time with your Bible! To find the ingredients to add you'll need to look up the listed scripture verses. The ingredients will be listed on page 7 (Underneath the scripture readings )of the RedBud in case you get stumped!***

***This clever cake recipe was submitted by Marilyn Seel.***

### **SCRIPTURE CAKE**

- 1.) 4 1/2 cups of *1 Kings 4:22*
- 2.) 1 cup of *Judges 5:25*
- 3.) 2 cups of *Jeremiah 6:20*
- 4.) 2 cups of *1 Samuel 30:12*
- 5.) 2 cups of *Nahum 3:12*
- 6.) 2 teaspoons of *Amos 4:5*
- 7.) 2 cups of *Numbers 17:8*
- 8.) 2 tablespoons of *1 Samuel 14:26*
- 9.) 1 pinch of *Leviticus 2:13*
- 10.) 6 of *Jeremiah 17:11*
- 11.) 1/2 cup of *Judges 4:19*

Seasoning to taste

- 12.) *2 Chronicles 9:9*

To mix, follow the directions of Solomon for bringing up a child in *Proverbs 23:14*. Bake the cake in loaf pans at 325 degrees for about 50 minutes. Turn on a rack to cool. Slice after a few hours.

A pinch of salt is about 18 grains. (from Dr. Chase's recipes of 1886)

This particular recipe is based on the Revised Standard Version of the Bible but others have been taken from the King James Version.

This is a white fruit cake, less sweet than most and slices beautifully when cold to serve with tea.

It may be topped with a very thin sugar icing dribbled over the surface.



# ***SCRIPTURES FOR December, 2021***

**Sunday, December 5**

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

*Malachi 3:1-4*

*Luke 1:68-79*

*Philippians 1:3-11*

*Luke 3:1-6*



**Sunday, December 12**

**3rd Sunday of Advent**

*Zephaniah 3:14-20*

*Isaiah 12:2-6*

*Philippians 4:4-7*

*Luke 3:7-18*

**Sunday, December 19**

**4th Sunday of Advent**

*Micah 5:2-5a*

*Luke 1:46b-55*

*Hebrews 10:5-10*

*Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]*

**Friday, December 24**

**Christmas Eve**

*Isaiah 9:2-7*

*Psalms 96*

*Titus 2:11-14*

*Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]*



**Sunday, December 26**

**1st Sunday of Christmas**


*1 Samuel 2:18-20,26*

*Psalms 148*

*Colossians 3:12-17*

*Luke 2:41-52*

# DECEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday		Fri	Sat
			<b>1 Missions Meeting</b> <b>10:30 am (Fellowship Hall)</b> <b>Lectionary Bible Study 1:30 pm (Nursery)</b>	2	<b>3</b> <div>OFFICE CLOSED</div>	<b>4</b> <b>Decorating the church 10:00 am</b> <b>All invited!</b>
<b>5</b> <b>10 AM - Worship Service</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>  <b>11 AM- Fellowship</b>  <b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>	6	7	<b>8</b>  <b>Lectionary Bible Study 1:30 pm (Nursery)</b>	9	<b>10</b> <div>OFFICE CLOSED</div>	<b>11</b>
<div>BRMC Parking Lot Prayer Project 12/6—12/10 6:45am - 7:15am</div>						
<b>12</b> <b>10AM Worship Service</b>  <b>11 AM— Congregational meeting</b>  <b>12 PM Church Christmas Party (Fellowship Hall)</b>  <b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>	13	<b>14</b> <b>Deacon's Meeting 10 am (Library)</b>  <b>Women's meeting 1 pm (Fellowship Hall)</b>	<b>15</b>  <b>Lectionary Bible Study 1:30 pm (Nursery)</b>	16	<b>17</b> <div>OFFICE CLOSED</div>	18
<b>19</b> <b>10AM Worship Service</b> <b>11 AM - Coffee Fellowship</b>  <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>	20	<b>21</b> <u><b>NO SESSION MEETING</b></u>	<b>22</b>  <b>Lectionary Bible Study 1:30 pm (Nursery)</b>	23	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Worship Service 4 pm</b>	<b>25</b> <div>OFFICE CLOSED</div>
<b>26</b> <b>10 AM- Worship Service</b> <b>11 AM- Coffee Fellowship</b>  <b>1st Sunday of Christmas</b>	27	28	<b>29</b>  <b>Lectionary Bible Study 1:30 pm (Nursery)</b>	30	<b>31</b> <div>OFFICE CLOSED</div>	

**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.**