



The REDbud

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian
Church Mountain Home, Arkansas

DECEMBER 2022



Sunday Worship Services 10:00 am

Coffee Fellowship after Worship Service

Phone: 870-425-3799 email: fpcmh@centurytel.net

Office hours: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Monday– Thursday

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

The internet reveals little about Wilda English — only that she lived from 1916 to 1997 and once resided in California. No details exist about her family, work or interests. Just this prayer, widely shared online. And it is no small thing. Indeed, the prayer tells much about her faith.

God bless Wilda English for sharing these words with the world. May they continue to inspire many!

**God grant you the light in Christmas, which is faith;
the warmth of Christmas, which is love;
the radiance of Christmas, which is purity;
the righteousness of Christmas, which is justice;
the belief in Christmas, which is truth;
the all of Christmas, which is Christ.**



*Special Dates in **DECEMBER***

BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 12-Patty Gamelin

Dec. 14-Sherman Fine

Dec. 17-Loweta Rogers

Dec. 20-David Buff

Dec. 23-Sarah Ruegsegger



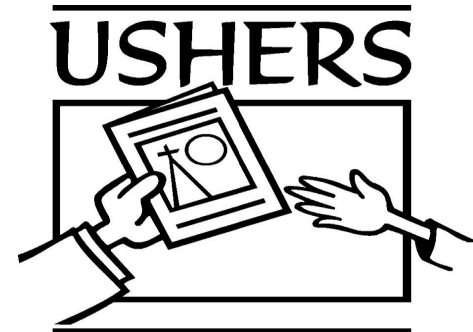
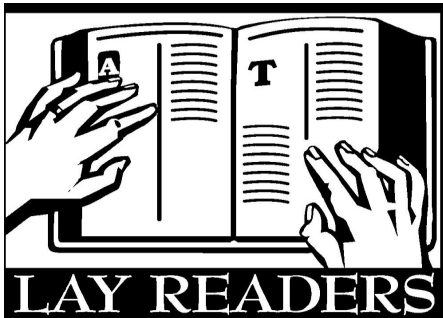
ANNIVERSARY

Dec. 19-George & Joyce Hove

Dec. 28-Phil & Ellen Jordan

- First day of winter, December 21, 2022
- Christmas Eve, December 24, 2022
- Christmas Day, December 25, 2022
- New Year's Eve/Watch Night, December 31, 2022

Serving in Worship



Dec. Lay Readers

4th-Doug W.

11th-Don C.

18th-Ralph G.

25th-Carolyn H.

December Fellowship

Don't forget to volunteer to host fellowship by signing up on the bulletin board on the way to the fellowship hall. There is a sign up sheet for December & January currently hanging on the board.

Dec. Ushers

4th-Loweta R.

11th-Robert K.

18th-Robert K.

25th-Robert K.

Come as you are

If you sometimes have a “love-hate” attitude toward Christmas, you’re not alone. Theologian Charles Spurgeon bemoaned the “gluttony and drunkenness” that often marked the holiday in 19th-century England. “If there be any day in the year of which we may be pretty sure that it was not the day on which the Savior was born,” he said, “it is the 25th of December.”

Yet Spurgeon also wished “there were 20 Christmas Days in the year,” because Christ’s birth represents “supreme joy.” In his writings and sermons, Spurgeon urges people to honor Jesus’ birthday “all year round,” reminding them that they can come “just as you are” because “no forms of etiquette are required in entering a stable.” God offers everyone total acceptance, Spurgeon adds, “for he puts himself into that manger that you may approach him.”



CANDLE—The candle symbolizes Jesus being the light of the world (John 8:12), as well as his call for Christians to be lights (Matthew 5:14). Candles play a prominent role in the Christmas season. Each candle on an Advent wreath has a special meaning.

Church Leadership Meetings

NOVEMBER SESSION UPDATE

There was a congregational meeting on November 13. Leslie Belden preached and moderated the meeting following the Service. **Ellen Jordan was approved to be a Deacon for 3 more years; Pete Wells, Ruth Fine and Ralph Gillespie were also approved to be Elders for 3 more years. The meeting then addressed the search for a new pastor. There are options available, do not give up hope.** A complete copy of the minutes will be available on the bulletin board in the mail room.

The next Session meeting will be on December 4.

NOVEMBER DEACONS UPDATE

The Deacons did not meet on November 15th. The next meeting will be December 20th at 10 a.m.

Marty Hasty– Moderator

What do you sing at a snowman's birthday party?

"Freeze a jolly good fellow!"

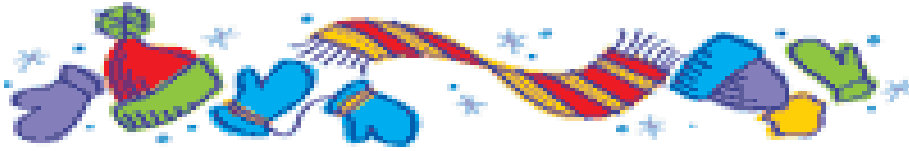


Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2022:

Donations/Deposits	\$ 7,641.00
Cleared Checks/Expenses	\$ 5,091.03
Bank Balance	\$64,648.45
Uncleared Checks	\$ 2,088.91



Mission Matters



WARM HEARTS

We are currently collecting items for “Warm Hearts” on November 15, we will begin collecting blankets, hats, gloves, space heaters and sleeping bags for Ozark Opportunities to distribute to those in the community in need. The deadline to submit the items will be on December 15th.

We will be meeting on **Wednesday, December 7 at 1 pm.**



Q-What goes “Oh, Oh, Oh”?

A-Santa walking backward.



Women of the Church

The Women of the Church met in Fellowship Hall on November 8, 2022 with nine present. We had several not there due to illness. Hostesses were Marilyn Seel and Kim Terrell. Marilyn was not able to be there but she made sure we got a piece of her delicious pumpkin pie, a November tradition. Thank you Marty Hasty for picking it up and stepping up to co-hostess with Kim Terrell. You girls did a great job.

Our next meeting will be December 13, at 1 pm at the home of Michelle and Doug Wells. We will car pool from the church at 12:30. Further details will be announced at Church. If you plan to car pool please be at church no later than 12:20 as we will be leaving 12:30 promptly.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

December Communion Servers are **Robert and Susan Kearns**.

The worship committee is looking for volunteers to serve communion to the shut-ins. Please contact Carolyn Hannon if you are interested.

A huge **thank you** to all the wonderful volunteers that have stepped forward this year to help make the Worship Services reflect the love of Jesus in this church.

In Christ,

Carolyn Hannon, Worship Committee Moderator

"Christmas is a box of tree ornaments that have become part of the family."

—Charles M. Schulz

SCRIPTURES FOR DECEMBER 2022

Sunday Dec. 4

2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

Sunday Dec. 11

3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalms 146:5-10

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

Sunday Dec. 18

4th Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

Christmas Day

Nativity of the Lord

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalms 98

Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12)

John 1:1-14



What did Adam say the day before Christmas?

It's Christmas, Eve!



DECEMBER 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
				1	2	3
					Office closed	
4 2nd Sunday of Advent Session	5 Missions 10 am	6	7	8 Master Gardeners 12 pm	9	10
					Office closed	
11 3rd Sunday of Advent <i>CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY</i>	12	13 WOC 1 pm	14	15	16	17
					Office closed	
18 4th Sunday of Advent	19	20 Deacons 10 am	21 1st Day of Winter	22	23	24
					Office closed	
25 Christmas Day!	26	27	28	29	30	31
					Office closed	
1 New Years Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
					Office	closed

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

8704253799

fpcmh@centurytel.net

Website: www.fpcmh.net

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.