



# The REDbud

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian  
Church Mountain Home, Arkansas

## MARCH 2023



**Sunday Worship Services 10:00 am**

**Coffee Fellowship after Worship Service**

**Phone: 870-425-3799    email: [fpcmh@centurytel.net](mailto:fpcmh@centurytel.net)**

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

**Monday– Thursday**

### **Prove it!**

In *Jesus Christ, Superstar*, King Herod mocks the bound prisoner who's brought to his courtyard. "So, you are the Christ. You're the great Jesus Christ!" he sings. "Prove to me that you're no fool: Walk across my swimming pool!"

Likewise, the Pharisees demand evidence that Jesus is speaking for God (see Matthew 12:38). It's easy to poke fun at them, but have you ever faced a tough decision and thought, "If only God would give me a sign"?

Jesus tells the religious teachers about the "sign of Jonah," a metaphor for his upcoming death and resurrection. Though it's meant to be a sign for all, not everyone accepts it as truth. Luke 16:31 notes that if the rich man's brothers weren't predisposed to listen to Moses and the prophets, then "they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead" (NIV). Signs are useful only to people who accept their messages and act accordingly.

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

# Special Dates in **MARCH**

## BIRTHDAYS

**Janeth Lawson-5**

**Jim Lillis-9**

**Frank Zortman-13**

**Edward Andrews-17**

**Lillian Eurers-20**

**Marilyn Seel-22**

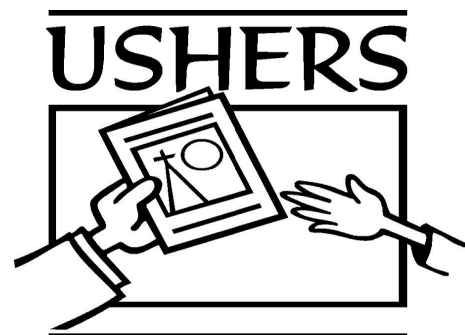


## Special dates

- World Day of Prayer, *March 3, 2023*
- Daylight saving time begins, *March 12, 2023*
- *St. Patrick's Day, March 17*
- First day of spring, *March 20, 2023*

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## *Serving in Worship*



### March Lay Readers

5th-Doug W

12th-Don C.

19th-Ralph G

26th-Kay K

### March 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 March and April currently hanging on the board.

### March Ushers

5th-

12th-

19th-

26th-

# ***Church Leadership Meetings***

## **FEBRUARY SESSION UPDATE**

There was a Session meeting on February 5. Rev. Cindi Saul preached and moderated the meeting following the service. A complete copy of the minutes will be available on the bulletin board in the mail room.

## **FEBRUARY DEACONS UPDATE**

The Deacons met on February 21. The meeting was attended by Deacons, Ellen Jordan, Jackie Hoff, Eleanore Wheeler, Mary Smith and Loweta Rogers and Martha Hasty, Deacon Moderator.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and the Deacon fund was reported with a balance of \$2,536.18.

Each Deacon reported of their concerns and joys for each of their church family. Then each Deacon shared joys and concerns in their own lives.

There was no old or new business to report. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05am. The next Deacon meeting will be **March 21, 2023**.

Martha Hasty, Deacon Moderator



## **Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2023:**

Donations/Deposits	\$ 9,971.00
Cleared Checks/Expenses	\$ 9,950.78
Bank Balance	<b>\$ 58,928.48</b>
Uncleared Checks	\$ 1,682.44



## **Giving up guilt**

Rev. Greg Boyle, a Jesuit priest who ministers to high-risk youth in Los Angeles, once quipped, “I ... don’t do guilt. I gave it up for Lent years ago.” Many Christians give up something for Lent but usually not guilt! Rather, Lent is seen as a time to somberly examine our sinful nature.

Having witnessed sin’s tragic effects through addiction, violence and gang warfare, Father Boyle realizes that dwelling on guilt doesn’t lead to hope or healing. Instead, he helps young people discover their God-given strengths and their ability to make life-affirming choices. His nonprofit Homeboy Industries provides positive alternatives for teenagers, who are reminded not of their guilt but of their identity as God’s beloved children.

On Good Friday Jesus conquered sin and death so we *don’t* have to wallow in guilt. Giving our lives to God frees us to live in the joy of forgiveness.



## **Indulge for Lent?**

Rather than sacrificing something for Lent — especially something easy and spiritually insignificant, such as chocolate — Patty Kirk, in *Guideposts* magazine, suggests finding new ways to indulge in God’s presence. Surely one can do this by having extra devotions or attending Lenten worship services. But Kirk offers these ideas:

- Spend time outdoors, sensing God’s magnificence.
- Spend time with others, extending generosity and compassion. Remember Jesus’ promise that when you care for others, you care for him (Matthew 25:31-46).
- Pray for the “little things,” coming before God in childlike trust and feeling peace.
- Watch attentively for God’s answers to prayer, and receive them as reminders of his presence.
- Turn anxiety into prayer. As you frame concerns as prayers and entrust them to God, you “sacrifice” the tendency to wallow in worry.



**March 1st** will be the first day of collecting toiletry items for the Alpha House Men's shelter in Mountain Home. They have requested we donate the following:

- **Toothbrushes**
- **Toothpaste**
- **Body wash and soap**
- **Shampoo**
- **Lotion**
- **Deodorant**



### **HEY FOOTBALL FANS!**

**On January 1, you collected canned soup until February 12. All items were donated to the Food Basket.**

**You were able to collect 227 pounds of soup or 277 items of soup that were donated to the Food Basket. Thank you!**

**As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point the wrong way.**



## Women of the Church

The Women of the Church met February 14, in Fellowship Hall with 9 present. Pat Wise and Lillian Eurers were hostesses.

Our next meeting will be **March 14 at 1 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Nancy Priest will bring us the lesson. We will be starting our new series "What She Said". Quotable women in scripture.

All women are welcome to come and bring a friend. Hostesses will be Barb Hough and Jackie Hoff.



## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Communion Servers, a reminder that as in the past, you are expected to collect and dispose of the used wine glasses and clean the utensils. You will present the elements to the congregation at the tables. The server of the wafers will have a disposable glove to wear. Thanks for serving your church family.

A sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board for those wanting to host the fellowship coffee after services.

In Christ,  
Carolyn Hannon, Worship Committee Moderator





# **SCRIPTURES FOR *MARCH* 2023**

## **Sunday March 5      2nd Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17

## **Sunday March 12      3rd Sunday in Lent**

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42



## **Sunday March 19      4th Sunday in Lent**

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

## **Sunday March 26      5th Sunday in Lent**

Ezek. 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45



MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
			1 Missions 1 pm	2	3 Office closed	4
5 Communion/ Session mtg  2nd Sunday in Lent	6	7	8	9	10 Office closed	11
12  3rd Sunday in Lent	13	14 WOC 1 pm	15	16	17 Office closed	18
19  4th Sunday in Lent	20	21 Deacons 10 am	22	23	24 Office closed	25
26  5th Sunday in Lent	27	28	29	30	31 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](http://www.fpcmh.net)**

**Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.**