



The REDbud

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian
Church Mountain Home, Arkansas

JANUARY 2024



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

First, Contact

In *Unclean: Meditations on Purity, Hospitality and Mortality*, Richard Beck writes powerfully about Jesus healing a leper in Matthew 8:1-3. “What is intriguing about this story is the sequence. Jesus touches the leper first. Then the command ‘Be clean!’ is offered. That is, Jesus’ first move is into ritual defilement. By first touching the leper, Jesus ... [is] standing in solidarity with the unclean.” Beck finds this “striking” because typically we expect purification before contact. But Jesus’ actions reverse the pattern: “Contact occurs first.”

How fortunate for us, too, that God didn’t wait to reach out to us until he had cleansed us of sin. God didn’t save us from afar and only *then* come to live among us. Rather, “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8, ESV). And continuously, Jesus loves us, comes to us and touches our hearts, even when we are at our worst — straying from God, trapped in sin, unworthy, unclean, unrighteous. For it’s not *our* righteousness or purity that heals and saves us, but Christ’s.



Special Dates in JANUARY

Birthdays

02-Susan Kearns

04-Sandra Kidd

25-Betty Preyer

27-Chuck Beall

30-Judy Sulephen

Anniversary

18-Chuck & Cheryl Beall

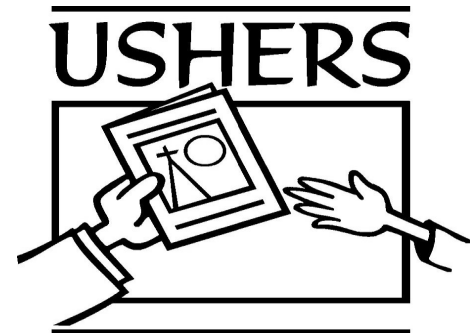
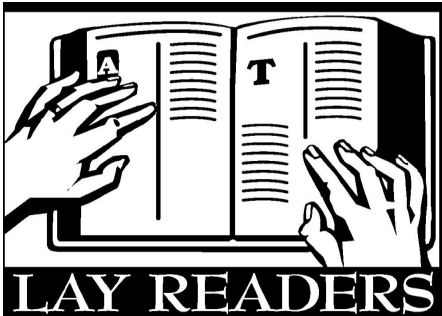


Special dates

- New Year's Day, *January 1, 2024*
- Epiphany, *January 6, 2024*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 7, 2024*
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 15, 2024*
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January 18-25, 2024*



Serving in Worship



Jan. Lay Readers

07-Ellen J

14-Don C

21-Doug W

28-Mary S

January 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 January and February currently hanging on the board.

Jan. Ushers

07-Mary S

14-Loweta R

21-Bob K

28-Loweta R

Church Leadership Meetings

DECEMBER SESSION UPDATE

The session DID NOT meet in December. Complete Session minutes are posted on the Board in the Mail Room.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Priest, Clerk of Session

**Open the eyes and ears of my heart, creative Spirit, to listen for your word of truth.
Amen.**

DECEMBER DEACONS UPDATE

The Deacons DID NOT meet in December. The next meeting will be January 16 at 10 am.

Marty Hasty– Moderator



Treasurer's Report as of November 30, 2023:

Donations/Deposits	\$ 4,288.00
Cleared Checks/Expenses	\$ 5,340.26
Bank Balance	\$ 53,975.32

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Priest, Treasurer





HEY FOOTBALL FANS!

ARE YOU READY FOR THE SOUUUUUPER BOWL?

We are collecting canned soup until February 11. All items will be donated to the Food Basket.

DID YOU KNOW?...

You were able to donate 10 Blankets and 8 Sleeping Bags to Ozark Center of Hope for their clients this winter. Thank You

Mary Smith– Moderator





Women of the Church

ATTENTION ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH:

At the November 14 meeting of the WOC, it was decided to go to Colton's, Dutch treat, at 11:30 am Friday, December 8 for our annual Christmas luncheon. At the Luncheon, Eleanore Wheeler has decided to become the new Secretary/Vice President of the WOC. Many thanks to Loweta Rogers for all she has done for the WOC as the Secretary/Vice President. Nancy Priest will present the lesson at the January 9 meeting at 1:00 pm. All women are invited to attend.



***Friday, January 5-Taking the Greens Down.**

Contact Mary for more information.

January 07-Rev. Cindy Saul Preaches (Communion)

Ellen Jordan is Lay Reader

January 14-Rev. Cindy Saul Preaches

Don Crapnell is Lay Reader

January 21-Rev. Stewart Smith Preaches

Doug Wells is Lay Reader

January 28-Rev. Mike Clark Preaches

Mary Smith is Lay Reader

In Christ,

Mary Smith, Worship Committee Moderator



SCRIPTURES FOR JANUARY 2024

Sunday January 07

Baptism of the Lord

Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29

Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11

Sunday January 14

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51

Sunday January 21

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

Sunday January 28

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28



All Scriptures are taken from the Presbyterian Planning Calendar



MAY
MERCY,
PEACE,
AND
LOVE
BE
MULTIPLIED
TO YOU.

JUDE 1:2, ESV

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

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8704253799

fpcmh@centurytel.net

Website: www.fpcmh.net

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.