



The REDbud

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church
Mountain Home, Arkansas



JANUARY 2025

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

Tuesday– Thursday

All About Attitude

“The way you say ‘representative’ to an automated system reflects the real you,” a friend told me. After we laughed at that truth, I realized everything I say matters. Someone is always listening, whether the words and tone are positive or negative.

Ephesians 4:29 (NLT) says our language shouldn’t be “foul or abusive” but good, helpful and encouraging. Whether I’m peaceful, hurried, joyful, empathetic, frustrated, celebrating or hurting, I can carefully choose my words (and the attitude behind them). When I’m not ready to speak wholesomely, may God shut my mouth. When a friend needs encouragement, may I listen to God’s prompting. When I need to confront, may I do so lovingly.

Changing how we think — that is, how we speak to ourselves — can be tough. But God wants to transform our reactions and motives, dispelling pride, a lack of confidence and anxiety. In this new year:

I’m alone can become God is with me. I can’t do this can become Anything is possible with God. I’m failing can become Just because I’m struggling, it doesn’t mean I’m failing. I’m not enough can become I’m God’s beloved child. I’m tired can become God will give me rest.

Don’t stop there. Consider the concerns in your heart and let God give you new words and attitudes.

—Janna Firestone



A Growing Problem

I have met very nice people here at First Presbyterian. It is well run and the people in charge are conscientious and responsible. The services are well organized and the congregation is friendly and caring toward each other. I haven't noticed any feuds going on or people vying for controlling positions as I have noticed in other churches. When you lost your organist and needed a back-up minister, you were able to do so. You handle your finances well at a time when many churches are having a challenge in that area. What more could a minister or a church desire for the year ahead? One thing! More of you!

Church growth is a real challenge these days. All churches and organizations are experiencing a decline in membership these days. People aren't joining. They aren't volunteering. Not only are the adults not showing up, but adults are not getting their children involved. If it doesn't involve sports, participation appears to be down all over.

It is a sad fact that people are walking away from their church connections. They are leaving their religion behind and with it, the moral and ethical teachings it brings to their families and children. For some it seemed that after COVID, it didn't seem necessary to return to that church building to preserve their relationship with God. They are trying to make it on their own, and sadly many are slowly losing their connection to God altogether.

When I was in Seminary, the answer they proposed seemed to have been for the church to be involved in the community so the community got to know the church and what it could offer, and for the church to see and offer what the community needed. I see this church doing a lot of charity and outreach already. With the size and the demographics of our congregation, I'm not sure what we can manage, if anything, in that area, but I'm open to suggestions.

So, I'm asking what you think. Do you have any ideas? What are we doing right or wrong or what should we do in a different way? In the meantime, don't hesitate to invite new people or others to join us, to check our church out, or just come in friendship for coffee after services. People do watch what we do to see if we "practice what we preach". What has been tried before? Monthly card games or dominos? Please tell me what you think or suggest to see if we can make a difference. God Bless.

Special Dates in **JANUARY**

Birthdays and Anniversary

January 2-Susan Kearns

January 4-Sandra Kidd

January 6-Mindy Connor

January 27-Chuck Beall

January 30-Judy Sulephen

Anniversary

January 18-Chuck and Cheryl Beall

*****Mary Smith new contact**

information: 870-321-7905

Marysmith2056@gmail.com



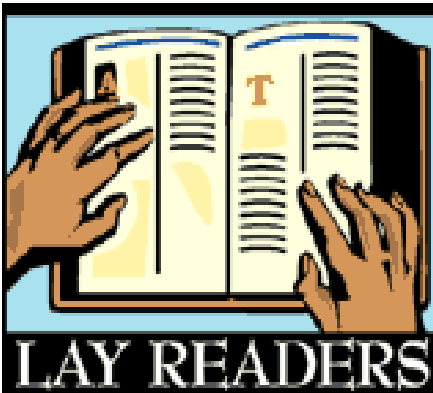
Special Dates

- New Year's Day, *January 1, 2025*
- Epiphany, *January 6, 2025*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 12, 2025*
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 20, 2025*
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January 18-25,*

*****Wana Thacker new
Phone Number*****

870-232-2903

Serving in Worship



JANUARY Lay Readers

05-Ellen J

12-Don C

19-Doug W

26-Nancy P



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.



JANUARY Ushers

05-Open

12-Open

19-Open

26-Open

Church Leadership Meetings

DECEMBER SESSION UPDATE

The Session met on 17 November 2024 with all the elders but Ruth Fine in attendance; Rev. Lila DeMoss, moderator. Session met to discuss disposal of /sale of church equipment and the budget for next year. A copy of the approved minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the mailroom. Next meeting set for December 29, with Rev. Lila DeMoss as moderator. More updates will be available next month.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Priest, Clerk of Session

DECEMBER DEACONS UPDATE

The Deacons report for December 2024 includes a review and discussion of our members, friends, and family. Any need was shared with the Prayer Group. Each Deacon's list was updated as needed. Please remember to call your Deacon if you need assistance. The next meeting will be January 21st at 10:00 am.

We wish you blessings during the new year.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Wheat, Moderator



TREASURER'S REPORT as of NOVEMBER 30, 2024

Donations/Deposits	\$ 5,206.00
Uncleared Checks/Expenses	\$ 3,484.51
Bank Balance	\$ 43,481.46

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Priest, Treasurer





SOUP-R-BOWL

The New Year continues with the church collecting cans of soup to be donated to the Mountain Home Food Basket. Two tables are set up on opposite sides of the Fellowship Hall with signs of the participating teams that will play in the Super Bowl. When you are grocery shopping, please pick up an extra can to donate.

Place your cans of soup on the table where your team is and hope to win! On Super Bowl Sunday, February 9 2025, the Mission Committee will serve a soup meal after the service that day.

**The next meeting for the Mission Committee will be
Wednesday, January 8 at 1:00 pm.**

Mary Smith– Moderator



Just a few of the items donated last year.



Women of the Church

The women met at Jamie's Restaurant on December 11 at 12:30 pm for their Christmas party. All women were invited to attend. The next meeting for the women will be Tuesday, January 14 at 1 pm. All women are invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted, Eleanore Wheeler

Prayer List for Congregations, Presbytery of Arkansas

January 05-First, Clarksville	(Members:068 Est:1840)
Park Hill, North Little Rock	(Members:145 Est:1948)
January 12-Mt. Vernon, Pea Ridge	(Members:043 Est:1850)
First, Huntsville	(Members:045 Est:1841)
January 19-Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center	
Active Ruling Elders	
January 26-University of the Ozarks, Clarksville	
Faith, Horseshoe Bend	(Members:053 Est:1976)



SCRIPTURES FOR JANUARY 2025

Sunday January 05

2nd Sunday of Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalm 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:(1-9) 10-18

Sunday January 12

Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sunday January 19

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

Sunday January 26

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a


Luke 4:14-21

All Scriptures are taken from the Presbyterian Planning Calendar.
(Complementary)



JANUARY 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
			1 NEW YEAR'S DAY OFFICE CLOSED	2	3 Office Closed	4
5 Communion 	6 Office Closed	7	8 MISSIONS 1 pm	9 Master Gardeners 12 pm	10 Office Closed	11
12	13 Office Closed	14 WOC 1 PM	15	16	17 Office Closed	18
19	20 Office Closed	21 DEACONS 10 AM	22	23	24 Office Closed	25
26	27 Office Closed	28	29	30	31 Office Closed	

JANUARY

First Presbyterian Church

1106 Spring Street

Mountain Home, AR 72653

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Church Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. /Tuesday -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.