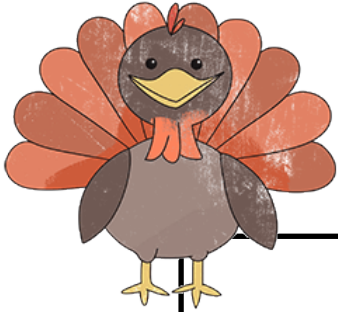




The **RED**bud

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church
Mountain Home, Arkansas



NOVEMBER 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



Giving Thanks for All Things

It's easy to list the blessings in life: good health, family, a satisfying career, a comfortable home. We might even be thankful for things others take for granted such as freedom and clean drinking water, reliable transportation and food enough to eat. Then there are the little things, such as gardens, sunrises, pets and coffee.

But what about life's storms or unanswered prayers? Should we be thankful for these? Loss and hardship remind us of our dependence on God. He uses trials to draw us closer to him, to show us that He is our rock and refuge. In misfortune and grief, we discover God's comfort and strength. Should we not, then, be thankful for the storms, too?

from the **PASTOR**

This time of year, as the days grow shorter and colder, it's easy to feel overwhelmed by all that's wrong in the world. Yet even in the bleakest of times, there are stories of hope, compassion, and kindness worth sharing. Stories of people who have overcome immense hardships and still found reasons to be grateful. Stories of small acts of kindness that rippled out in ways the doer never imagined.

It's easy to overlook the little details in life when we get caught up in the daily grind. But the small acts of kindness—a smile from a stranger, a door held open, a handwritten note—are worth appreciating. Be grateful for the little pleasures and tiny moments that make up your day.

Our health and abilities are easy to take for granted, but they are some of life's most precious gifts. Appreciate being able to see the beauty around you, hear your favorite song, walk outside on a nice day, or simply wake up each morning. If you're facing health issues, be grateful for each day you're given and the support of loved ones around you.

We all make mistakes and poor decisions at times. But life often gives us another chance to learn, grow, and start anew. Be grateful for the opportunities to forgive others, learn from your failures, and try again. Appreciate the moments where you're given a fresh start and a chance to move forward in a positive direction.

During the Thanksgiving season, it's easy to get caught up in planning meals, shopping, cleaning, and hosting duties. But the true meaning of Thanksgiving is giving thanks for the simple things we have in life.

Some years, life's hardships can make it difficult to feel grateful. Loss of loved ones, health issues, financial troubles—these struggles are all too real. Yet even in the darkest of days, there are small miracles surrounding us if we open our eyes to see them. The beauty of an autumn sunset, a laugh with friends or family, a warm meal, and shelter from the cold. Each day, we are given another chance to start anew, another opportunity to connect with others, another moment to appreciate life's fleeting beauty.

This Thanksgiving, take a pause from the busyness. Reflect on the year gone by. Find the light that remains, however small it may be, and let gratitude fill your heart. Share your joy with others. Be the miracle someone else needs. There is always something to be thankful for. The miracle of life itself is reason enough. An attitude of gratitude can lift our spirits and brighten our days. When we pause to count our blessings, we gain perspective and nourish our souls.

Rev. Lila DeMoss



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2025

Today we remember our Saints of the church who have entered the church Triumphant this year.

John Strong

3/24/2025

Don Crapnell

6/23/2025

Sherman Fine

6/25/2025

Dan Gilbert

10/21/2025

T.J. Lawson

10/25/2025



I thank my God in all my remembrance of you. Philippians 1:3

November 30 is the First Sunday of Advent. Do you know about Chrismons?

A **Chrismon** is a religious ornament decorated with a Christian symbol, typically used on Christmas trees in churches during the Advent and Christmas seasons. The name is a portmanteau of "Christ" and "monogram". The symbols on the ornaments represent various aspects of Jesus Christ, his life, ministry, and saving acts.

Common Chrismon symbols and their meanings

- **Chi-Rho (☩):** One of the oldest Chrismons, formed from the first two Greek letters of "Christ".
- **Alpha and Omega (ΑΩ):** The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, representing that Christ is the beginning and the end.
- **Fish (Ichthus):** An ancient symbol where the Greek letters spell out "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior".
- **Chalice:** Represents Communion and God's forgiveness.
- **Shepherd's Crook:** A reminder of Jesus as the Good Shepherd.
- **Lamb:** Represents Jesus as the "Lamb of God".
- **Descending Dove:** Symbolizes the Holy Spirit, often referencing Jesus's baptism.
- **Butterfly:** A symbol of the Resurrection, transformation, and new life.
- **Cross and Crown:** Symbolizes the reward of eternal life for Christians and Jesus as "King of Kings".
- **Celtic Cross:** A Latin Cross with a circle, with the circle representing eternity.
- **Triangle:** Represents the Holy Trinity: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- **Crown of Thorns:** A passion symbol reminding Christians of Jesus's suffering during the crucifixion.

Special Dates in *November*

Birthdays

3-Michele Wells
7-Pete Wells
16-Beverly Preble
19-Mary Smith
23-Nancy Priest

Anniversaries

11-Doug & Michele Wells



Special Dates for November 2025

- All Saints' Day, November 1, 2025
- Daylight Savings Time ends, November 2, 2025
- Veterans Day, November 11, 2025
- Christ the King Sunday, November 23, 2025
- Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 2025
- First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2025

Serving in Worship



November Lay Readers

02-Nancy P
09-Ellen J
16-Kay K
23-Marty H
30-Mary S



November 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 November currently hanging on the board.



November Ushers

02-Marilyn W
09-Mary S
16-Ellen J
23-Open
30-Open

Church Leadership Meetings

OCTOBER SESSION UPDATE

The Session met on 26 October 2025 with all the elders but Pete Wells attending; Rev. Lila DeMoss, moderator. Session discussed congregational meeting on December 14. All Reports for the Annual Reports are due December 1. A special Session meeting will be at 11:30 on November 16. Pastor Lila presented an opportunity to give Christmas Gifts to the prisoners she is counseling. A list of suggestions will be in the hallway and on Fellowship Hall tables.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Priest, Clerk of Session

OCTOBER DEACONS UPDATE

The Deacons continue to contact members, friends of the church, and family. Judy Sulephen has moved and her new address is 1802 Huron Ct, MH. Many thanks to the Mission Committee for the wonderful Fall breakfast they provided October 12 and for all of their constant care of our congregation.

Marilyn Wheat, Moderator

We would worship you with gladness, dear God, and enter your presence with humility.

TREASURER'S REPORT as of September 30, 2025

Bank Balance	\$36,122.07
Texas Presbytery Fund	\$377,966.97

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Priest, Treasurer



MISSIONS HEADLINES

The Mission committee is collecting money for the Good Samaritan Shoe Boxes. The donations will be given online for others to fill the needed boxes.

Also, Rev. Lila has given us an opportunity to give Christmas gifts to the prisoners she counsels at the prison in Calico Rock. A list of suggestions and ideas will be posted in the hallway and on tables in Fellowship Hall.

For more information please contact Mary Smith.





Women of the Church

The Women of the Church met October 14. A sign up sheet is on the board for hostesses. The next meeting will be on November 11 at 1 pm. Nancy Priest is presenting the lesson on Esther. We encourage all women to come, listen, and be part of learning about Queen Esther.

See you there...

Prayer List for Congregations, Presbytery of Arkansas

**Nov. 02-Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals
First, Arkadelphia**

(Members: 026 Est:1953)

(Members: 078 Est:1858)

**Nov. 09-Campus Ministries
Hospital Chaplains & Counselors**

**Nov. 16-Church Nursery Workers
First, Rogers**

(Members: 100 Est:1911)

**Nov. 23-First, Harrison
Westminster, Hot Springs**

(Members: 164 Est:1870)

(Members: 152 Est:1903)

**Nov. 30-Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village
First, Searcy**

(Members: 318 Est:1981)

(Members: 099 Est:1850)

SCRIPTURES FOR NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday November 02

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 1:10-18 Psalm 32:1-7
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10

Sunday November 09

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Job 19:23-27a Psalm 17:1-9
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 Luke 20:27-38

Sunday November 16

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Malachai 4:1-2a Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19

Sunday November 23

Christ the King/Reign of Christ

Jeremiah 23:1-6 Luke 1:68-79
Psalm 46 Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

Sunday November 30

1st Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44

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

NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
					 Office Closed	1
All Saint's Day 	Office Closed				Office Closed	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	Office Closed	WOC 1PM Veterans Day		Master Gardeners 11 AM	Office Closed	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
Session Meeting	Office Closed	Deacons 10 am			Office Closed	16 17 18 19 20 21 22
Christ the King/ Reign of Christ	Office Closed			Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	Office Closed	23 24 25 26 27 28 29
1st Sunday of Advent	Office Closed				Office Closed	30

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.