

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

*Thank you for joining us in worship today. We are so glad that you are here!
Please take a minute to fill out the friendship pad in your pew and pass it along to others.
Our desire is to serve you and your family as you seek to grow in your faith.*

WORSHIP TODAY

Flowers today are given to the glory of God by Martha and Jim Braswell in honor of Martha's birthday and in remembrance of Olga Pate from George, Kenton, Michael Pate, and their families.

Flowers...If you would like to donate flowers for the Sunday Worship Services, please sign your name on the flower chart calendar and complete the flower card, located by the bulletin boards in the hall. Please return the flower card to the church office or offering plate with your payment of **\$50.00**. Thanks for being part of this important ministry.

The Barnabas Cards are located in the pews. They are used like thinking-of-you cards. Fill out the person's name on the front and place it in the offering plate. A volunteer will address it and mail it for you.

Remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Health concerns: Sue Miller; Jackie and Granville Sydnor; Norma Shepherd; David Askine; Bill McPhail; James Jackson; Jean Johnston; Edith Langdon; and Jackee Baggott.

WORSHIP HELPS

Jesus said "Let the children come to me." Here at FPC we take those words to heart and believe that children learn the faith best by worshipping surrounded by an extended church family! We also acknowledge that children often learn and listen best when their hands are busy. Families with young children are invited to sit in the pews on the organ side of the sanctuary (if desired) to allow the children to do quiet activities using the tables and pillows in our new "pray ground". As always, our nursery (Room 1) is open for children 4 and younger following "Chancel Time with Children", should parents/grandparents choose that option.

Bibles and hearing enhancement devices are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Coffee, Wassail, and Cookies are available before and after worship in the fellowship hall.

FPC Event Calendar			
Today, December 10	Sunday School for all ages	9 : 00	a m
	Worship - Good Tidings	10 : 30	a m
	YGAC - Lunch	12 : 00	p m
Monday, December 11	Church Officer Training	7 : 00	p m
Tuesday, December 12	PW Circle Joint Luncheon	10 : 00	a m
	Pilates	10 : 15	a m
	Prayer Shawl	2 : 00	p m
	Yoga chair/standing	6 : 00	p m
	PW Night Circle	7 : 00	p m
	Yoga floor/mat	7 : 00	p m
Wednesday, December 13	Baywood Crossing	10 : 00	a m
	Intercessory Prayer	11 : 00	a m
	Brown Bag and Bible	12 : 00	p m
	ECP Christmas Program	6 : 30	p m
	Choir Practice	7 : 00	p m
Thursday, December 14	Men's Breakfast at Franks	7 : 00	a m
	Pilates	10 : 15	a m
	Yoga chair/standing	6 : 00	p m
	Spanish Bible Study	6 : 30	p m
	Church Officer Training	7 : 00	p m
	Men's Bible Study	7 : 00	p m
Sunday, December 17	Yoga floor/mat	7 : 00	p m
	Sunday School for all ages	9 : 00	a m
	Worship	10 : 30	a m
	YGAC - at Currie's	Noon - 3:00	p m

*“While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.”
Glory to God #92*

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent. Celebrate this season of anticipation and expectation each week at FPC as we journey towards Bethlehem. To add meaning to this season, Advent resources (including our annual FPC Advent Devotional Book) for families and adults are on the glass table in the narthex. Feel free to pick up yours today.

Today’s sermon, “Good Tidings of Great Joy!”, is presented by **FPC children and youth, with several loving adults sprinkled in.** We invite you to listen for the Word of God through scripture, music, and movement. After worship, all shepherds, angels, kings, holy family, helping hands and families are invited to meet in The Oasis (room 12) to travel to a celebration lunch.

Chrismon Kits Available Today A Chrismon is a “Christ-monogram” or a symbol for Jesus. You are invited to pick up a “Chrismon Kit” on a table near our beautiful Chrismon tree in the narthex to make a Chrismon at home. In each ziplock bag you will find an ornament, the meaning of the symbol, and a hanger. All you do is add glue, gold and white glitter and/or sequins and a little imagination to have your own one-of-a-kind ornaments to celebrate the season.

The Bethlehem Market, the alternative gift market, is open in the narthex after worship services **TODAY** and next week. You may donate by cash or check (written to F.P.C.) to your favorite mission in honor of someone, and you will be given a gift card to send to the person you are honoring. Stop by to shop and give a gift that will make a difference.

New Church Directory for 2018! Schedule your photography appointment at the sign-up table in the narthex through December 31! **Photography dates are January 8, 9, and 10 from 2:30 - 8:45 pm.** Sign up **today** to get the most convenient time for you and your family!

Presbyterian Women Joint Circle Meeting and Christmas Luncheon is Tuesday, December 12, at 10:00 am. Please bring a friend and a favorite dish! Night Circle meets at 7:00 pm.

Brown Bag Bible Study This Wednesday, December 13, from noon to 1 p.m. in the fellowship hall with the book of Daniel. Bring your lunch & join the lively discussion.

Looking for Some Peace & Quiet this Season? If so, you are invited to walk through our interactive prayer stations at the back of the sanctuary. Whenever the doors of the building are open, you are welcome to come in for a time of reflection and prayer...whether for ten minutes, an hour or an afternoon. **“Be still, and know that I am God”** is an open invitation to all. *May the peace of Christ be with us all as we listen and wait this Advent season and beyond.*

Seafarer Boxes of Love - Interested in a simple yet meaningful personal or family hands-on mission project this season? Consider filling a shoebox with items that will bring joy to seafarers who spend months away from home. For about \$10, you can make a difference in a stranger’s life as you share God’s love made visible. Details of what and how to do this are in the newsletter and on empty shoeboxes in the narthex. Please return *filled* and *wrapped* boxes to the Chrismon Tree by Sunday, December 17 so they can be delivered in time for Christmas.

Youth Christmas Party - All 6th-12th graders are invited to the annual Christmas party at the Curries’ home NEXT Sunday, December 17. Meet in The Oasis after worship to travel together. Parents/grandparents may pick up their young person at 3 p.m. from the Curries.

Youth Cho Yeh Sign-Up & Deposit Due Next Sunday - All 6th-12th graders who are planning to go to Camp Cho Yeh February 23-25 please reserve your spot by signing up on the youth bulletin board across from The Oasis and paying your \$50 fee by next Sunday, December 17. Questions? Contact Jim or Jo Ann Currie or see the newsletter for more details.

Yoga Classes, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Both 6 p.m. classes are now “chair/standing” yoga. The 7 p.m. classes will remain full mat yoga. Come grow in strength, flexibility and balance...and invite a friend.

The Christmas JOY OFFERING. provides critical financial assistance to church leaders in need and, supports opportunities for future leaders at Presbyterian racial ethnic schools. Please give generously to this special offering.

Brothers and Sisters, **KAIROS** is on the move for February 15, 2018 at Jester Unit III. Please prepare letters, cookies (due 2/12/18), and the art work for place mats and cookie bags. The final part is money, we need your financial support. There are ways to support people who are looking for a better way than what got them where they are, that is where you come in, please help if you will.

C.L., Mark Corder